

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

4 v.

15 Cr. 643 (PKC)

5 GARY HIRST,

6 Defendant.

7 -----x  
8 September 22, 2016  
10:00 a.m.

9 Before:

HON. P. KEVIN CASTEL

10 District Judge  
11 and a Jury

12 APPEARANCES

13 PREET BHARARA

14 United States Attorney for the  
Southern District of New York

15 BY: BRIAN R. BLAIS

AIMEE HECTOR

16 REBECCA G. MERMELSTEIN

Assistant United States Attorneys

17 SHER TREMONTE LLP

18 Attorneys for Defendant

19 BY: MICHAEL TREMONTE

JUSTINE A. HARRIS

20 NOAM KORATI BIALE

21 ALSO PRESENT:

SPECIAL AGENT SHANNON BIENIEK, FBI

22 ELLIE SHEINWALD, Paralegal

GARY SMITH, Paralegal

23 RYAN POLLOCK, Paralegal

1 (Trial resumed; jury not present)

2 THE COURT: I have considered the arguments with  
3 regard to the issue of the government calling Shant Chalian and  
4 I'm now prepared to rule.

5 Prior to trial, the government produced 3500 material  
6 for Mr. Chalian, an attorney who previously represented Gerova  
7 while at the law firm of Hodgson Russ. On September 9th, the  
8 government indicated that it no longer intended to call  
9 Mr. Chalian, and on September 19th, during trial, the  
10 government indicated that it did want to call Mr. Chalian, and  
11 extensive argument has ensued.

12 At bottom, the purpose of the government's examination  
13 is to rebut the statement made by the defendant to Michael  
14 Hlavsa in a Skype chat, GX600B. "I just sent you the  
15 calculation spreadsheet from Shant," and that calculation  
16 spreadsheet referred to, the government believes, is  
17 Government's Exhibit 601. The government's theory is that the  
18 calculations did not originate with Chalian but originated with  
19 a member of the conspiracy or a person acting under the  
20 direction of a member of the conspiracy.

21 The government has, at my request, described the  
22 proposed examination of Chalian. This is in the trial  
23 transcript at pages 1105 to 1106. The examination focuses on  
24 the period of May 21 through May 27th, May 21st being the date  
25 of the exercise notice with respect to warranties, through

1 May 27th, the date the shares were, in fact, issued. The two  
2 inquiries of Mr. Chalian are, "Did you see the calculations in  
3 Government's Exhibit 601? Did you work on any calculations  
4 regarding shares to be received by Mr. Shahini?" That's the  
5 gist of it.

6 Defense counsel helpfully outlined areas of likely  
7 cross, and they are set out in the transcript between pages  
8 1106 and 1111, as supplemented by further statements by counsel  
9 at the close of yesterday's session.

10 The government has represented that it has produced  
11 all 3500 material relating to Chalian, all Rule 16 material,  
12 all Brady, and all Giglio material in its possession or  
13 control, and there does not seem to be any present dispute  
14 about that circumstance.

15 Allowing the government to call Chalian is likely a  
16 discretionary act. It produced the 3500 material for him,  
17 thereby indicating they were going to call him as a witness,  
18 and undoubtedly said they were going to call him as a witness,  
19 only to then renounce that intention. The stated need for  
20 Chalian's testimony was apparent from the face of the  
21 government's own exhibits, 601 and 600B, and the Court has  
22 considered potential prejudice to the defendant.

23 The defendant relies principally on a subpoena it  
24 served on the law firm of Hodgson Russ on June 16th and claims  
25 that it was lulled into inaction by the government's

1 September 9th decision not to call him. Had the government not  
2 done so, the defendant maintains, the defendant might have  
3 obtained a trove of impeachment materials and indeed materials  
4 that might be useful to the defendant as relevant, admissible  
5 evidence.

6 These claims are not supported by the subpoena, the  
7 actions of the defendant in pursuing the subpoena, and the  
8 positions taken by the law firm that was the subject of the  
9 subpoena. It also misapprehends the function of a Rule 17C  
10 subpoena.

11 Further, it conflates the government's request to call  
12 Chalian as a witness with the defendant's own ability to call  
13 Chalian as a witness. It ignores the limitation that cross of  
14 Chalian as a government witness is limited to the scope of the  
15 direct testimony and any proper impeachment.

16 I begin with Rule 17C. "To constitute a valid  
17 subpoena under Rule 17C, a party must clear three hurdles; one,  
18 relevancy, two, admissibility, three, specificity." See United  
19 States against Nixon, 418 U.S. 683 at 700.

20 As the Court said in that case, generally, the need  
21 for evidence to impeach witnesses is insufficient to require  
22 its production in advance of trial. And courts have held that  
23 a Rule 17C subpoena is not properly used to acquire documents  
24 from a nonparty solely for their use in impeachment. See, for  
25 example, United States against Cherry, 876 F. Supp. 547 at 552,

1 553 where Judge Haight said, "Courts have consistently  
2 interpreted the admissibility standard of Rule 17C to preclude  
3 production of materials whose evidentiary use is limited to  
4 impeachment." Of course, in theory, a document could be  
5 relevant and admissible and specifically identified, and it  
6 could be used as both evidence and impeachment material, but a  
7 Rule 17C subpoena may not seek material solely for impeachment.

8 Now, looking at the face of the subpoena that was  
9 served here on June 16th, 2016, it was a blunderbuss subpoena.  
10 Paragraph 1 sought "all documents and communications sent to or  
11 from Hodgson Russ email account corresponding to the email  
12 address of Stephen Weiss between January 1st, 2009 and the  
13 present, including, but not limited to, all email attachments,"  
14 and Category 2 called for "all documents and communications  
15 relating to Gary Hirst." That subpoena failed the relevancy  
16 ground, the admissibility ground, and the specificity ground.

17 On June 27th, Hodgson Russ informed the plaintiff that  
18 just the category on emails involving Stephen Weiss from  
19 January 1st, 2009 to the present, and he left the firm in 2012,  
20 they indicated that that would cover 78,000 responsive  
21 documents. And with regard to documents involving Gary Hirst,  
22 that would cover 16,000 documents. Notably, they didn't say  
23 they didn't have responsive documents, they said they have  
24 responsive documents, the subpoena was overbroad.

25 After discussions regarding the scope of the subpoena,

1 on August 8th, the law firm wrote to counsel for the defendant  
2 and said, in part, "As you have not provided any basis for this  
3 firm to consider the subpoena to have been validly issued and  
4 because the subpoena is overbroad and calls for documents that  
5 are privileged, the firm will treat the subpoena as a nullity  
6 and will not provide any documents. Please let me know if you  
7 intend to seek to enforce the subpoena." That was on  
8 August 8th, 2016, more than a month prior to trial.

9           There were ensuing conversations and attempts to  
10 narrow the subpoena. On August 10th, one of the attorneys  
11 working on behalf of the defendant tried to narrow it with a  
12 number of subjects and narrow the time period from September,  
13 2009 to December, 2010, and the law firm wrote back, "I will  
14 check it out with our IT people concerning volume, but your  
15 proposal does nothing to address the fact that a vast majority  
16 of the emails are likely to be privileged, and it appears you  
17 are engaged in a fishing expedition. If there are specific  
18 transactions or narrow date ranges you can identify, that may  
19 be a starting point."

20           The discussions ensued, and the law firm advised  
21 counsel for the defendant that, with regard to what was sought  
22 in the purportedly narrowed universe, there were 36,000  
23 responsive emails. Again, and notably, the law firm was not  
24 told there's nothing responsive, they were told there's plenty  
25 responsive.

1           On August 11th, counsel for defendant came up with a  
2 further proposal to narrow, and the law firm advised that this  
3 did, in fact, narrow it to a scope of acceptable number of  
4 documents, but absent waivers of privilege, the law firm did  
5 not see how they could produce any of the communications.

6           Now, I should say for the record that my understanding  
7 is that the trustee or those acting for the bankrupt estate of  
8 Gerova have declined to waive the attorney/client privilege.  
9 So that is something that should be known.

10           In or about September 6th, counsel for the defendant  
11 indicated that they were seeking documents that had been  
12 produced to the SEC and believed that there were some, and I  
13 think it was shortly thereafter that the government in this  
14 case learned of such documents. I know the government has  
15 represented that it turned over what it received, and it  
16 appears that the law firm may have also done that shortly  
17 before trial.

18           Now, what was turned over, and I have an email  
19 September 6th at 4:06 p.m., and I do not know whether what was  
20 turned over by the law firm to counsel for defendant is  
21 identical to what the defendant turned over, but at some point  
22 before trial, the defendant received a listing of documents  
23 that the law firm said was responsive to an SEC subpoena, but  
24 that they were not producing them, but if the SEC wanted them,  
25 they would consider the issue of whether they were privileged

or not.

If the defendant had believed that Hodgson Russ had documents that were potentially admissible or that it desired to call Chalian as a witness and wanted these documents for use in presenting Chalian as a witness, it should have pursued the subpoena compliance in a timely manner. It is simply not true that it was unaware that Hodgson Russ had responsive documents until it received a log of documents from Hodgson Russ shortly before trial, or whether it received that log from Hodgson Russ or from the government is immaterial before it received this log.

The defendant received all documents that the law firm produced to the SEC without exception. The fact that the SEC did not ask for documents on the logs doesn't alter this. The SEC never saw the documents and the government has never seen them. Had the defendant pursued the subpoena, the Court would either have quashed the original subpoena without prejudice to a new subpoena or narrowed its scope. Eventually, whether on a narrowed subpoena or a new subpoena, a privileged log would have been produced by Hodgson Russ, and the Court would have heard from Gerova's counsel and from the parties and would have ruled on the privilege issue, but the defendant did not pursue this avenue. In that sense, it sat on its rights. If the defendant wanted relevant admissible evidence from the firm, it should have acted long before trial. Defendant's subpoena



1 could not seek materials only for impeachment purposes, and  
2 thus, was never truly linked to whether the government would  
3 call Chalian as a witness.

4 In the exercise of discretion, the government will be  
5 allowed to call Chalian as a witness on the narrow grounds  
6 stated. The Court has previously permitted the defendant to  
7 call an expert belatedly, and the Court concludes there is no  
8 cognizable legal prejudice to the defendant. That said,  
9 significant measures have been taken here to ensure that there  
10 is no prejudice to the defendant, and let me discuss what they  
11 are.

12 The government obtained an affidavit from Hodgson Russ  
13 in which they indicated that they had searched for documents  
14 containing terms used in Government 601, and that they had done  
15 a second search for all emails and attachments sent or received  
16 by Shant Chalian, Eric Pinero, and Stephen Weiss relating to  
17 Gerova between May 21st, 2010 and May 27th, 2010. The Court  
18 has obtained these emails and attachments as to which a claim  
19 of privilege is asserted and has reviewed them in-camera.  
20 There were 441 emails, including attachments to those emails,  
21 and an additional 456 pages of documents in a PDF format.

22 The emails and the documents are largely a discussion  
23 and circulation of draft versions of documents that later  
24 became publicly available documents, such as the Form 20-F and  
25 the Form 6-K. There were also emails related to other Gerova

1 transactions, such as a joint venture agreement between Gerova  
2 and Planet Five, and Net Five Holdings.

3           The Court did find one document that potentially could  
4 bear on the subject matter of the witness' testimony,  
5 generously read. Thankfully, I need not concern myself with  
6 grounds of invading the attorney/client privilege or finding it  
7 waived or otherwise because I conclude that the document is not  
8 privileged, it is simply a request for a link to publicly  
9 available data. It is not a communication to or from a client,  
10 or even among counsel for the purpose of legal advice, as I see  
11 it, and so I am going to order produced, and will produce now,  
12 a one-line email from Shant Chalian to Eric Pinero, subject  
13 "Trading price", the entirety of which reads as follows: "Can  
14 you send me the link with the daily Gerova trading prices?  
15 Thanks." That's the entirety of the email.

16           The Court has concluded that the government may call  
17 Mr. Chalian. There is no confrontation clause presented by  
18 their calling him. The confrontation clause protects an  
19 opportunity for an effective cross examination, not cross  
20 examination that is effective in whatever way and to whatever  
21 extent the defense might wish. That's a quote from U.S. V  
22 Owens, 484 U.S. 554 at 559, and the District Court retains wide  
23 latitude where the confrontation clause is concerned "to impose  
24 reasonable limits on such cross examination based on concerns  
25 about, among other things, harassment, prejudice, confusion of

1 the issues, and matters that are marginally relevant."

2 Delaware v. Vanarsdale, 475 U.S. 673, 679.

3 That is my ruling. One second, please.

4 (Pause)

5 THE COURT: We'll hand out the document at this time.

6 Are our jurors ready?

7 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Yes.

8 MR. TREMONTE: Thank you, your Honor. May we request  
9 a brief, maybe 10-minute recess in advance of the government  
10 calling Mr. Chalian to confer and --

11 THE COURT: Yes.

12 MR. TREMONTE: -- review that? Thank you.

13 THE COURT: Do we have a witness on the stand at this  
14 time?

15 MS. MERMELSTEIN: We do, your Honor. He's outside.

16 THE COURT: Bring him in, please.

17 I'm marking the email I distributed as Court  
18 Exhibit 6, but if anybody wishes to use it in front of the  
19 jury, it should be marked by the party who is offering it.

20 (Continued on next page)

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1 (Jury present)

2 THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

3 JURORS: Good morning.

4 THE COURT: Good to see you, and I appreciate the  
5 smiles. That always helps.

6 We're ready to begin. Mr. Hinton, the Court reminds  
7 you that you're still under oath.

8 Ms. Harris you may proceed.

9 PAUL HINTON,  
10 recalled as a witness by the Government,  
11 having been previously sworn, testified as follows:

12 CROSS EXAMINATION

13 BY MS. HARRIS:

14 Q. Good morning, Mr. Hinton.

15 A. Good morning.

16 Q. I'd like to start the morning by looking at Government's  
17 Exhibit 902. I just want to draw your attention to the date  
18 where you indicated that Shahini receives 5.3 million shares,  
19 May 27th, 2010.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Now, after that date, the price of Gerova stock still goes  
22 up, correct?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. It goes up through the beginning of June into mid-June,  
25 correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. By your analysis, at that point in time, the shares are  
3 being held in various brokerage accounts, correct?

4 A. Well, I think they start off in one brokerage account and  
5 then --

6 Q. Are transferred?

7 A. -- are transferred to another. But I think at this point  
8 in time it gets quite early on. So it's the first two  
9 brokerage accounts I think involved in this time period.

10 Q. Right. They're first transferred to Roth Capital?

11 A. That's right.

12 Q. And after that to CK Cooper?

13 A. Right. So CK Cooper is where the shares are on June 14th.

14 Q. And you reviewed the account statement for both of those  
15 accounts, correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And those account statements show that the shares are  
18 subject to Regulation S, correct?

19 A. I don't recall.

20 Q. Now turning to Government's Exhibit 903. We discussed this  
21 briefly yesterday, but the matched trading with the Martin  
22 Kelly and Ymer Shahini accounts doesn't begin until later in  
23 July, 2010, correct?

24 A. Yes. July 22nd is when it begins.

25 Q. Then looking at Government's Exhibit 904, the matched

1 trading with the TAG accounts doesn't begin until  
2 September 28th, 2010.

3 A. Yes, that's right.

4 Q. Looking at Government's Exhibit 905, the matched trading  
5 doesn't actually begin until October, 2010, correct?

6 A. Well, the TAG -- it's still the same TAG brokerage  
7 activity, it's just that the Rita Cole account doesn't purchase  
8 any shares until later.

9 Q. My mistake. But matched trading with the Cole account  
10 doesn't begin until October, 2010.

11 A. That's right.

12 Q. Thank you. I want to turn to Government's Exhibit 910.  
13 This is the multipage chart. Now, I think it was your  
14 testimony on direct that you thought it was notable that there  
15 was very little money in the Penine account when the  
16 2.62 million was wired in, correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. But that small amount of money, that was as of June 22nd,  
19 correct?

20 A. The beginning of the day, yes.

21 Q. The beginning of the day, the day that the money, 2.6, was  
22 wired in.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. But as of June 1st, 2010, there was actually \$90,000 in the  
25 account, correct?

1 A. I don't recall.

2 MS. HARRIS: If I could have Government's Exhibit 411,  
3 please. Mr. Pollock, please pull up page 16.

4 Q. In the middle of the page there it says "previous balance  
5 as of June 1st, 2010", correct?

6 A. Yes. I can see that down here.

7 Q. Right. Or actually, if you look at the summary in the  
8 middle of the page.

9 A. Previous balance in the summary, yes.

10 Q. Right. So \$90,341, correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Then turning to page 14, again, the summary section in the  
13 middle of the page, the balance as of May 1st, 2010 was  
14 \$181,157, correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Then turning to page 12, the balance as of April 1st, 2010  
17 was \$189,119, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Looking down at the bottom of each page, it shows the cash  
20 in and cash out during the course of the month, correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Then turning to page 9, the previous balance as of  
23 March 1st, 2010, I think, there are no commas here to guide me,  
24 but I think that's \$3,565,543, correct?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Then turning to page 7, the balance as of February 1st was  
2 \$38,279, correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Finally, on page 4, the balance as of January 1st, 2010,  
5 was \$88,250.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. So a fair bit of cash coming in and out every month,  
8 correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. In fact, I think you did note that there were, even during  
11 the time period that you were looking at, there were deposits  
12 made into the account unrelated to the Shahini funds that  
13 you've identified, correct?

14 A. Yeah, transfers.

15 Q. Correct. So looking at the last page of Government's  
16 Exhibit 910, there was a deposit -- you've indicated a blue box  
17 at the bottom left from an entity called ICA of \$687,500,  
18 correct?

19 A. That's right.

20 Q. There under where it says "transfer" you've identified from  
21 "other" of 109,000, correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. That was actually a journal entry from a related account;  
24 is that right?

25 A. Transfer from another account, yes.



1 Q. Okay. Of 189,000?

2 A. I believe so.

3 Q. Looking at this chart, Government's Exhibit 910, you  
4 labeled the chart "Proceeds to Hirst entities", correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. But not all of these entities listed on this chart are, in  
7 fact, Hirst-related entities, by your analysis, correct?

8 A. Just the red and pink ones.

9 Q. The only ones you're identifying, according to your  
10 analysis, as Hirst entities are actually labeled with "Hirst"  
11 in parentheses, correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So all of these entities on the right with blue boxes,  
14 those are other entities that you've not identified as  
15 connected to Gary Hirst, correct?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. Just so the record is clear, this is the column that begins  
18 with the "Emerging Markets Global" in a blue box at the top,  
19 correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Now, I think you explained on direct that you prepared this  
22 chart to show certain transfers during this time period,  
23 correct? Withdrawn. Not transfers, but money wired out,  
24 correct?

25 A. Well, actually, I think I said I was using the chart to

1 summarize all of the activity, but the way in which it's  
2 summarized groups some of the activity together.

3 Q. Because there was too much activity to really put on all --

4 A. Yeah. I can't put on every individual activity.

5 Q. And you were only doing this for is certain period of time,  
6 correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. So if there are transfers back into Pennine after  
9 June 22nd, 2010, this chart doesn't reflect that, right?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. If one of these entities wired money back in July, it  
12 wouldn't be shown on the chart, correct?

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. Similarly, if there are other transfers out of Pennine  
15 after June 22nd, it wouldn't be shown on this chart, correct?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. Now, there are, I think, two boxes in that right-hand  
18 column that you've identified as "other entities", correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And those were just entities that you grouped together that  
21 couldn't be shown on the chart, correct?

22 A. No. We just chose only to identify entities by name if  
23 they had a transfer of \$100,000 or more.

24 Q. Let's talk about that. I want to talk about some of the  
25 transfers that actually are not specifically identified by name

on your chart.

MS. HARRIS: If I could have Government's Exhibit 428, and this is, I think, a rather large document, but I'm going to try to draw your attention to specific pages within the exhibit. Mr. Pollock, it's page 41 for NCUA-174. I'm sorry. NCUA-169.

Q. So this is a wire out of the Pennine account, correct?

A. It's certainly a wire out of a Grand Adirondack account, yes.

Q. Drawing your attention to the originator information in the middle of the page under "institution information".

A. Yes. It says "Pennine" there, yes.

Q. And this is a wire for \$5,502?

A. Yes, that's correct.

Q. The reference at the bottom of the page is "Signature G.M. Peru"; is that right?

A. Yes.

Q. And that wire was done on February 8th, 2010, correct?

A. Yes, that's correct.

Q. Now drawing your attention to the pages beginning at page 88, or NCUA207 of Government's Exhibit 428. This is a transfer on March 3rd, 2010, correct?

A. Yes.

Q. And that transfer is for \$30,000, correct?

A. Yes.

1 Q. Again, from Pennine?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And the name of the beneficiary is Signature Gaming

4 Management Peru SAC, correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Now drawing your attention to page 66, or NCUA-185 of the  
7 same Government's Exhibit 428. That is a wire from the Pennine  
8 account on March 23rd, 2010, correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And that wire is for 34,000, correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And that is to an entity called Transtax Ltd, correct? In  
13 the middle of the page under "beneficiary information".

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Now drawing your attention to page 117 of Government's  
16 Exhibit 428. That's a transfer of \$25,000, correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. On April 5th, 2010?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Transfer of \$25,000 from Pennine Investors, correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And again, the beneficiary is Signature Gaming, correct?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. In Peru. And then turning your attention to page 104 to  
25 106 of the same Government's Exhibit 428. Again, that's

1 another \$30,000 transfer from Pennine, correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And this one is on April 27th, 2010?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And again, another transfer to Signature Gaming Management,  
6 correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. So I think, by my tally, that's over \$90,000 to Signature  
9 Gaming Management, correct?

10 A. I didn't do that math.

11 Q. You looked at two \$30,000 transfers, a \$25,000 transfer,  
12 and a \$5,000 transfer, correct?

13 A. I wasn't keeping track, but I'll take your word for it.

14 Q. I may actually have missed one. I apologize.

15 MS. HARRIS: If I could draw your attention to  
16 page 160 of the same Government's Exhibit 428. I apologize.  
17 It's a big document to jump around in. NCUA-160. I'm sorry.  
18 It may be page 41 in the PDF.

19 Q. This again is a transfer on February 8th, 2010 from the  
20 Pennine account?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. That's a February 8th, 2010 transfer of \$16,142, correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. From the Pennine Investors account?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. I think the beneficiary information is to an address in  
2 Peru, correct? If you look under "beneficiary information and  
3 address".

4 A. Well, the financial institution is in Peru, but I think --  
5 it's difficult to say where the -- yes, and the beneficiary is  
6 also in Peru, yes.

7 Q. Thank you. And then the reference at the bottom is  
8 "Signature G.M. del Peru", correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. So that's another \$16,000 that I think is headed to  
11 Signature G.M., or Signature Gaming, correct?

12 A. Signature G.M., yes.

13 Q. And assuming my math is roughly right, that would take the  
14 total to over \$100,000 to that one beneficiary, correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In your analysis, did you identify who controlled or was  
17 associated with Signature Gaming in Peru?

18 A. I don't recall.

19 Q. Isn't it true that Signature Gaming in Peru was associated  
20 with Michael Hlavsa?

21 A. I don't recall.

22 Q. That's not something the government informed you of when  
23 you prepared your analysis?

24 A. No. We weren't focused on that.

25 Q. I also want to ask you about a few other wires.

MS. HARRIS: If I could draw your attention to  
pages -- these are the PDF pages -- 163 in Government's  
Exhibit 428.

(Continued on next page)

1 Q. This is a \$90,000 transfer, correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. A \$90,000 transfer on May 25, 2010?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And that's from Pennine?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. The beneficiary is Sentinel Law, right?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And turning your attention to page 154 of the same  
10 Government Exhibit 428, that's a June 2, 2010 transfer of  
11 another \$90,000, correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. That again is directed to Sentinel Law as the beneficiary,  
14 correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And in your analysis, do you identify who was associated  
17 with Sentinel Law?

18 A. I recall it was one of the other defendants in the case.

19 Q. It was Jared Galanis, is that correct?

20 A. I believe so.

21 Q. So that's \$180,000 that went to Jared Galanis that's in the  
22 other category, correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And we previously, if you recall, looked at a \$34,000  
25 transfer to Transtax Ltd.



1 Do you recall looking at that wire?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Did you identify in your analysis which party is associated  
4 with Transtax Ltd.?

5 A. I don't think so.

6 Q. No one provided you with information that it was associated  
7 with Arie Van Roon?

8 A. I don't recall.

9 Q. So there's a lot of other transfers in that "other"  
10 category that don't appear on the chart, correct?

11 A. Right. They were too small to be individually displayed.

12 Q. Well, let me mention, we just went through the Signature  
13 Gaming transfers, and those totaled over \$100,000, correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Going back to Government Exhibit 910, on the last page,  
16 Emerging Markets Global, the amount of money received by that  
17 entity was actually only \$102,702, correct?

18 A. I don't recall.

19 Q. Could I draw your attention to Government Exhibit 411.

20 MS. HARRIS: Withdrawn.

21 Q. Looking again at Government Exhibit 910, the transfer to  
22 First Florida Equity Holdings, that was actually only for  
23 \$100,000, is that correct?

24 A. I don't recall the exact amount.

25 Q. I think it was your testimony on direct that you were using

1 \$100,000 as the cutoff for which entities would be shown on the  
2 chart, is that fair to say?

3 A. What I said was there would have to be an individual  
4 transfer of \$100,000 or more. That was what we chose as a way  
5 of summarizing the information and making it manageable.

6 Q. So that if one individual or one entity received several  
7 transfers that totaled over \$100,000, they didn't appear on the  
8 chart, correct?

9 A. We didn't do it that way, no.

10 Q. So Signature Gaming wasn't on the chart?

11 A. That's right.

12 Q. And Sentinel Law is not on the chart?

13 A. Not on this chart, no.

14 Q. Let's talk about the three boxes that you have identified  
15 as Hirst related entities, in particular, I guess Taurus Global  
16 and then these related brokerage accounts and Pennine  
17 Investors, Ltd. accounts.

18 You looked at, as we have talked about, the account  
19 documents in this case, correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And the bank statements?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. As you understand it, these entities are investment funds,  
24 correct?

25 A. Well, Global Asset Fund purported to be an investment fund

1 of some sort.

2 Q. And a hedge fund of a sort, correct?

3 A. I don't know how you would classify it that way.

4 Q. Typically, investment funds invest other people's money,  
5 correct?

6 A. Many do.

7 Q. A director of an investment fund, unless they have their  
8 own money in the fund, they don't owe the money in the  
9 investment fund, correct?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. Now, at the bottom of this chart, you indicate the sources  
12 for your analysis, correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And those include various government exhibits?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. You didn't look at any defense exhibits, correct, to  
17 prepare this chart?

18 A. Not to prepare this chart.

19 Q. You didn't look at Defense Exhibit 900, did you, relating  
20 to the corporate governance documents of Pennine Investors?

21 A. I don't think so.

22 Q. To determine the role that Mr. Hirst had with respect to  
23 Pennine Investors, did you?

24 A. We looked at the opening account statement.

25 MS. HARRIS: Can I have one moment, Judge?

1 THE COURT: Yes.

2 MS. HARRIS: Your Honor, by stipulation, I offer  
3 Defense Exhibit 900, 900A, 900B, 900C, 900D, 900E and 900F.

4 THE COURT: Any objection?

5 MS. MERMELSTEIN: No, your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Received.

7 (Defendant's Exhibits 900, 900A, 900B, 900C, 900D,  
8 900E and 900F received in evidence)

9 MS. HARRIS: May I approach the witness, your Honor?

10 THE COURT: You may.

11 Q. In case the computer is slow.

12 A. Thank you.

13 MS. HARRIS: I apologize, Judge. I have extra copies.

14 THE COURT: All right.

15 Q. If you could just take a moment.

16 MS. HARRIS: And if we could just pull up 900A on the  
17 screen.

18 Q. Have you ever seen these documents before?

19 A. No.

20 Q. You didn't see documents that indicated the transfer of  
21 management shares in connection with Pennine Investors Ltd.,  
22 correct?

23 A. No.

24 Q. And turning your attention to 900B, the indication there on  
25 the middle of the page is that Gary Hirst was no longer a

1 director at Pennine Investors as of February 27, 2010.

2 You never looked at that document, correct?

3 A. No.

4 Q. You see at the bottom, it indicates that he was appointed  
5 president in May 2001, and that he has not resigned as  
6 president. But you haven't looked into what it means to be  
7 president of Pennine Investors, Ltd., correct?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. You don't know what his duties as president are, correct?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. You don't know what legal obligations he has as president,  
12 correct?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. And turning your attention to 900D, if you look at the  
15 middle of the page, it looks like it's a special resolution of  
16 the shareholders of the company of Pennine Investors, Ltd.  
17 appointing Arie Jan Van Roon as the sole director of the  
18 company, correct?

19 A. I see that.

20 Q. And that document at the top is dated February 27, 2010?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And you never saw this document when you prepared your  
23 analysis, correct?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. Before you identified Pennine Investors as a first entity,

1 correct?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. And then drawing your attention to 900E, that's a letter  
4 signed by Arie Jan Van Roon accepting the appointment to the  
5 office of the director of the company as of February 27, 2010,  
6 correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And again, you didn't see that document before you prepared  
9 your analysis?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. And finally, if I could draw your attention to 900F, again,  
12 it looks like it's a resolution of the sole director of the  
13 company, at that time Arie Van Roon of Pennine Investors,  
14 requesting and authorizing the transfer of all of the  
15 management shares of the company from Axiat, Inc. to Pure Glow  
16 Finance, Ltd.

17 Do you see that in the middle of the page?

18 A. I see that.

19 Q. Again, you didn't see or analyze that document before you  
20 prepared Government Exhibit 910, correct?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. OK. Just going back to Government Exhibit 910.

23 MS. HARRIS: If I could look at the first page of 910.

24 Q. This is just the page showing only the \$2.62 million  
25 transfer or wire, correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. So we are clear, when that money is wired out of the CK  
3 Cooper account on June 22, it arrives at Taurus Global on the  
4 very same day, correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And on that very same day, it's transferred to Global  
7 Asset/Pennine, correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And then on that same day, it's actually transferred out  
10 again from that account, correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. To what I think you testified about as being a Swiss bank  
13 account, correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And that specifically was a Soc-Gen account, or Societe  
16 Generale account, correct?

17 A. Yes. It's labeled here Weston Swiss bank account.

18 Q. Did you in your analysis looked into who owned or  
19 controlled Weston?

20 A. I saw a number of e-mails that all corresponds with people  
21 who had Weston e-mails so it appeared to be individuals from  
22 that entity.

23 Q. You didn't look at any account opening documents relating  
24 to Weston, correct?

25 A. I don't recall.

1 Q. But, in fact, isn't it true that it's Albert Hallac who  
2 controls Weston, correct?

3 A. I saw his name on some of the e-mails.

4 Q. Just so we are clear, if we skip to page 4 of Government  
5 Exhibit 910 --

6 MS. HARRIS: I'm sorry. Withdrawn.

7 I would like to go to Government Exhibit 909.

8 Q. If you look at Government Exhibit 909, looking at the  
9 column of boxes on the right-hand side of the page, the fourth  
10 box down states that Albert Hallac separately got \$1 million  
11 out of the related Shahini brokerage accounts, correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. He also through Weston was the ultimate beneficiary of the  
14 \$2.6 million, correct?

15 A. I wouldn't say that.

16 Q. Well, let's go back to the fourth page of Government  
17 Exhibit 910.

18 I'm sorry. Let's go to the first page before there  
19 are too many arrows.

20 Your analysis showed that on the very same day that  
21 the \$2.6 million left the Shahini account, it arrived in a  
22 Soc-Gen account for Weston Capital, correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And just a moment ago you made clear that the e-mails you  
25 looked at associated Albert Hallac with Weston Capital,



1 correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So the \$2.6 million ended up in a bank account controlled  
4 by Albert Hallac, correct?

5 A. It was repayment of an investment from Weston.

6 Q. The money ended up in the Weston account, correct?

7 A. That's what this shows.

8 Q. And other than this \$2.6 million, which seems to flow  
9 through Global Asset and Pennine, you did not identify any  
10 other Shahini related funds that were associated with Gary  
11 Hirst, correct?

12 A. That's correct.

13 MS. HARRIS: I have no further questions.

14 THE COURT: You may redirect.

15 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Thank you, your Honor.

16 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

17 BY MS. MERMELSTEIN:

18 Q. Good morning again, Mr. Hinton.

19 A. Good morning.

20 Q. Let me ask you just a few questions.

21 First, do the owners or managers of investment funds  
22 typically charge fees in connection with the assets under  
23 management?

24 A. Yes.

25 MS. HARRIS: Objection.

1 THE COURT: Overruled.

2 Q. Now, Ms. Harris asked you a number of questions about the  
3 entities listed on various of the charts that you prepared.

4 Have you identified, through documents that you  
5 reviewed, the nature or identities of every entity listed on  
6 these charts?

7 A. No.

8 Q. So in some cases you just listed where the money went from  
9 the bank accounts, but you just don't know one way or the other  
10 who is associated with that account?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. And just to be clear, in preparing these charts, you relied  
13 only on the documentary evidence, you're not privy to the  
14 witness testimony in this case?

15 A. That's correct.

16 Q. So there may well be facts that you're just unaware of?

17 A. I certainly expect so.

18 Q. OK. Now, in particular, looking at the last page of  
19 Government Exhibit 910, which I am just going to ask you to  
20 look at the hard copies for a moment. You should have one in  
21 front of you. If not, I will pass one back up to you.

22 A. It's up on my screen.

23 Q. Let me give you a hard copy as well.

24 A. Thank you.

25 Q. We went through during your direct a government stipulation

1 that referenced Emerging Markets Global, the top box, and  
2 Pacific Rim. Do you know anything about Corrigan & Morris?

3 A. No.

4 Q. First Florida Equity Holdings?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Westmoore?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Recovery Capital?

9 A. No.

10 Q. I guess we have talked about Gerova Financial Group to some  
11 extent.

12 Earth Spectra Ltd.?

13 A. No.

14 Q. ICA?

15 A. No.

16 Q. So when you say you have identified the first entities on  
17 this chart in red and pink, you don't know one way or the other  
18 whether or not these other entities that you have not  
19 identified are associated with Hirst or anyone else?

20 A. That's correct.

21 Q. Now, just quickly on the Weston Swiss bank account, you  
22 have not reviewed the bank account itself, account statements  
23 or opening documents for the Swiss bank account, right?

24 A. Those weren't available.

25 Q. Swiss bank accounts, it's fair to say, are notoriously

1       secretive?

2                   MS. HARRIS:  Objection.

3                   THE COURT:  I will allow it.

4       A.  I believe that's one of the reasons why some of the  
5       documents weren't available.

6       Q.  So it's been associated with Weston based on some e-mail  
7       communications?

8       A.  Yes.

9       Q.  You don't know who the signatory on that account is, for  
10      instance?

11      A.  No.

12      Q.  OK.  Now, let's go back then --

13                   MS. MERMELSTEIN:  Can we switch to the elmo, Ms.  
14      Sheinwald.

15      Q.  You have not reviewed, you mentioned, all these subsets of  
16      Defense Exhibit 900, right?

17      A.  That's correct.

18      Q.  Bear with me for a moment.

19                   Just to make clear what this one Defense Exhibit 900B  
20      shows, the entry here for Gary Hirst as president indicates  
21      that he became president in May of 2001, right?

22      A.  Yes.

23      Q.  And this document was printed on June 30th of 2016, so a  
24      few months ago.  And he has, according to this document, not  
25      resigned as president, right?

1 A. Apparently.

2 Q. Now, in reviewing the bank accounts for Taurus Global and  
3 Global Asset/Pennine and Global Asset Fund brokerage, Gary  
4 Hirst is the only signatory on those accounts, right?

5 A. Based on the documents that I have seen.

6 Q. No indication that he is not the signatory as of the date  
7 of these charts in 2010, right?

8 A. I haven't seen anything.

9 Q. There is nothing to indicate that anyone else ever became a  
10 signatory, right?

11 A. I haven't seen any documents to say so.

12 Q. So let's go then to Government Exhibit 910, to the first  
13 page again. Let's just make sure we are clear about what this  
14 says.

15 Ms. Harris asked you about the amount of money that  
16 was in some of these accounts at various points in time.

17 On June 22, 2010, when the money from the Shahini CK  
18 Cooper account goes to Taurus Global and then to Global  
19 Asset/Pennine, Global Asset/Pennine has less than \$400 in it,  
20 right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. That money that same day is transferred to Weston, right?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And that was, as you understand it, repayment of a prior  
25 investment?

1 MS. HARRIS: Objection.

2 THE COURT: Overruled.

3 A. Yes. There was a prior \$5 million transfer to Pennine,  
4 which was purported to be an investment that was repaid in two  
5 pieces, and this is the second repayment.

6 Q. On June 22, 2010, when that repayment was made by Gary  
7 Hirst, Global Asset --

8 MS. HARRIS: Objection. Mischaracterizes the  
9 testimony.

10 THE COURT: Rephrase your question.

11 Q. Based on the documents you have reviewed, Gary Hirst is the  
12 only signatory of Global Asset/Pennine bank account, right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And indeed, you discussed on direct an e-mail in which he  
15 directs the wire to be sent to the Swiss bank account, right?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So on the day that the Global Asset/Pennine account sent  
18 the 2.62 million for payment to Weston, it did not have the  
19 money to do it without the \$2.62 million that was wired into  
20 the account from the Shahini CK Cooper account initially that  
21 day?

22 A. Correct. There was only \$300 before that.

23 MS. MERMELSTEIN: No further questions.

24 THE COURT: You may step down. Thank you.

25 (Witness excused)

1 THE COURT: We will take our mid-morning recess,  
2 ladies and gentlemen. Please do not discuss the case among  
3 yourselves or with anyone. We will be back in action in ten  
4 minutes. Thank you.

5 (Jury exits courtroom)

6 THE COURT: One quick question before we break. Is  
7 the government seeking, in the event of a conviction, is the  
8 government seeking forfeiture of any specific property as  
9 opposed to a money judgment of forfeiture?

10 MR. BLAIS: We haven't identified any specific  
11 property in the indictment.

12 THE COURT: Thank you.

13 We are in recess.

14 Next witness is Mr. Chalian?

15 MR. BLAIS: We are trying to determine that, your  
16 Honor.

17 THE COURT: Thank you.

18 (Recess)

19 THE COURT: Bring our jurors in, please.

20 (Continued on next page)  
21  
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1 (Jury present)

2 THE COURT: The government may call its next witness.

3 MR. BLAIS: Your Honor, the government calls Shant

4 Chalian.

5 SHANT CHALIAN,

6 called as a witness by the government,

7 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

8 THE DEPUTY CLERK: State your name and spell it for  
9 the record, please.

10 THE COURT: First and last.

11 THE WITNESS: Shant Chalian, first name S-H-A-N-T,  
12 last name Chalian, C-H-A-L-I-A-N.

13 THE COURT: You may inquire.

14 MR. BLAIS: Thank you, your Honor.

15 DIRECT EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. BLAIS:

17 Q. Good morning, Mr. Chalian.

18 A. Good morning.

19 Q. Mr. Chalian, what do you do for a living?

20 A. I am an attorney.

21 Q. How long have you been a lawyer?

22 A. Over 21 years now.

23 Q. Where did you work in 2010?

24 A. I was at Hodgson Russ in New York.

25 Q. What was your title at Hodgson Russ?



1 A. Partner.

2 Q. When you worked at Hodgson Russ, was Gerova Financial Group  
3 Ltd. one of your clients?

4 A. Yes, it was.

5 Q. Were you the lead lawyer on the Gerova relationship?

6 A. I was the second lawyer on the relationship.

7 Q. Who was the lead lawyer?

8 A. Stephen Weiss.

9 MR. BLAIS: Ms. Sheinwald, could you please pull up  
10 Government Exhibit 601, which is in evidence.

11 Q. Mr. Chalian, do you see Government Exhibit 601 on the  
12 screen in front of you?

13 A. I do.

14 Q. Mr. Chalian, did you prepare this document?

15 A. No, I did not.

16 Q. Did you do the calculations reflected in this document?

17 A. No, I did not.

18 Q. During the time period May 21 through May 27, 2010, did you  
19 ever see this document?

20 A. No, I don't recall seeing it.

21 Q. During the time period May 21 through May 27, 2010, did you  
22 work on any calculations regarding shares to be received by  
23 Ymer Shahini?

24 A. No, I did not.

25 MR. BLAIS: No further questions, your Honor.

1 THE COURT: You may cross-examine.

2 MR. TREMONTE: Thank you, your Honor.

3 CROSS-EXAMINATION

4 BY MR. TREMONTE:

5 Q. Mr. Chalian, you and Mr. Weiss were not the only lawyers at  
6 Hodgson Russ who were involved in representing Geroval, correct?

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. There was another lawyer named Eric Pinero on the matter?

9 A. Yes, there was.

10 Q. He was on the matter throughout 2010, is that correct?

11 A. I would say that's correct, yes.

12 Q. During the course of your work representing Geroval, you  
13 performed any number of warrant calculations, is that correct?

14 A. From time to time they were required, yes.

15 Q. One of the warrant calculations that you performed was in  
16 connection with the exercise of certain warrants by Noble,  
17 correct?

18 A. I don't recall that specifically.

19 Q. That was in June 2010 that that warrant was exercised?

20 A. I don't recall that. Sorry.

21 Q. You also were involved in a warrant calculation in May of  
22 2010?

23 A. I believe I was, yes.

24 Q. Do you remember the particular warrant that you worked on  
25 in May?

1 A. As I recall, that related to the publicly traded warrants.

2 MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, if I may have a moment?

3 THE COURT: Yes.

4 MR. TREMONTE: No further questions, your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Any redirect?

6 MR. BLAIS: No, your Honor.

7 THE COURT: You may step down.

8 THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor.

9 (Witness excused)

10 MS. HECTOR: Your Honor, may we read a stipulation?

11 THE COURT: Yes.

12 MS. HECTOR: "United States of America v. Gary Hirst.

13 "It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and among the  
14 United States of America, by Preet Bharara, United States  
15 Attorney for the Southern District of New York, Brian Blais,  
16 Aimee Hector and Rebecca Mermelstein, Assistant United States  
17 Attorneys, of counsel, and Gary Hirst, the defendant, by and  
18 with the consent of his attorneys, Michael Tremonte and Justine  
19 Harris, that:

20 "1. Government Exhibit 700 is a true and accurate  
21 copy of a telephone call lawfully intercepted by the Federal  
22 Bureau of investigation on July 28, 2010. The telephone call  
23 contained in Government Exhibit 700 was placed at 6:22 p.m.,  
24 Pacific Daylight Time, by Jason Galanis, from telephone number  
25 (310) 425-9575, to Gary Hirst at telephone number (407)

1 805-0422.

2 "2. Government Exhibit 701 is a true and accurate  
3 transcript of the recording contained in Government Exhibit  
4 700. Government Exhibit 701 lists true and accurate  
5 information for the recorded conversation, including the date  
6 and time of the conversation, as well as the identity of the  
7 individuals speaking.

8 "It is further stipulated and agreed by and among the  
9 parties that this stipulation is admissible as a government  
10 exhibit at trial."

11 Dated September 19, 2016 and signed by the parties.

12 The government now moves for the admission of  
13 Government Exhibit 1509, which is the stipulation, as well as  
14 Government Exhibit 700 and 701.

15 THE COURT: Any objection?

16 MR. TREMONTE: No objection, your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Received.

18 (Government's Exhibits 1509, 700 and 701 received in  
19 evidence)

20 MS. HECTOR: Your Honor, we are going to play that  
21 recording for the jury, and if we may pass out Government  
22 Exhibit 701, which is the transcript that we just admitted, so  
23 that the jurors can follow along.

24 THE COURT: Any objection?

25 MR. TREMONTE: No objection.

1 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, the transcript is an  
2 aid to listening. It is what is on the tape that controls, not  
3 what is on the typed transcript. So what you hear is what  
4 controls, not what it says on the piece of paper. If there is  
5 any variation between the two, I am not suggesting there will  
6 be, but it's just simply an aid to listening to the audio  
7 recording.

8 MS. HECTOR: Now, your Honor, we would like to play  
9 Government Exhibit 700.

10 THE COURT: All right.

11 JUROR: Is it just one or two copies? Is it just 701?

12 MS. HECTOR: It's just 701. There may be extras.

13 MS. MERMELSTEIN: We are having slight technical  
14 difficulties, but we will try one more time.

15 THE COURT: Take your time.

16 (Audiotape played)

17 (Continued on next page)

1 MR. BLAIS: Your Honor, the government rests.

2 THE COURT: All right.

3 MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, may we approach?

4 THE COURT: Yes.

5 (Continued on next page)

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(At sidebar)

MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, a couple things. We have a motion to make, and I think that there's at least a handful of the documents that we still need a ruling on; is that correct?

MR. BIALE: Correct.

MR. TREMONTE: With respect to the motion, we move for acquittal on all counts on the grounds that the evidence submitted by the government in its case in chief is insufficient to sustain a conviction on the conspiracy to commit securities fraud and substantive securities fraud counts, the evidence is not sufficient to show that Mr. Hirst engaged in a scheme to defraud, or that he omitted to state any material fact, or that he engaged in any act or practice that would operate as a fraud, or that he agreed with others to do so.

The evidence is not sufficient to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Hirst withheld any material information concerning the issuance of warrants or shares to Ymer Shahini from the company, or Geroval's board of directors, or its shareholders.

On the conspiracy to commit wire fraud and substantive wire fraud counts, the evidence is not sufficient to show that Mr. Hirst engaged in a scheme to defraud others of money or property within the applicable statute of limitations. There is no charged conduct within the applicable statute of

1 limitations that could serve as the predicate for the wire  
2 fraud counts. To the extent the government contends that the  
3 January, 2011 letter to the New York Stock Exchange brings the  
4 charge within the statute of limitations, that letter contains  
5 no misrepresentations; to the contrary, the letter shows that  
6 Gerova's board of directors, its officers, and its outside  
7 counsel were aware that Mr. Galanis maintained control over the  
8 shares that Mr. Hirst authorized to be transferred to Ymer  
9 Shahini.

10 Your Honor, we also move for a mistrial based on  
11 motions that we previously made to strike certain testimony  
12 which -- just give me one second.

13 (Pause)

14 MR. TREMONTE: I'm going to go back to the Rule 29.  
15 On the wire fraud and conspiracy to commit wire fraud counts,  
16 we're also moving on the grounds that the evidence is  
17 insufficient, not just on statute of limitations grounds.

18 Back to the mistrial motion. That the evidence  
19 concerning matched trading and market manipulation and  
20 investment advisor fraud is too attenuated and not connected to  
21 the charged conspiracy. On that ground, we move for a  
22 mistrial.

23 MS. HECTOR: Your Honor, with respect to Rule 29, the  
24 government believes that there has been sufficient evidence  
25 deduced at this trial to show that Gary Hirst, in fact, agreed



1 with others to orchestrate a scheme to issue the shares to  
2 Shahini for no apparent business purpose, that he failed to  
3 disclose the issuance of those shares to Gerova's shareholders  
4 and its officers and directors, including when he failed to  
5 disclose the existence of those shares to Michael Hlavsa in  
6 connection with his conversations with Mr. Hlavsa in June when  
7 he was preparing the 20-F. We believe that you have heard from  
8 witnesses that such an issuance was a material fact that would  
9 have been important for investors to know, and there is ample  
10 evidence to show that the defendant acted knowingly and  
11 intentionally in doing so, including signing what we believe is  
12 a backdated warrant agreement and taking steps to hide the  
13 issuance of those shares.

14 With respect to the securities fraud counts, there is  
15 evidence to show use of the mails or an instrumentality of  
16 interstate commerce, including emails, Skype account, and the  
17 actual mails.

18 With respect to the wire fraud counts, there is  
19 evidence of wires that cross interstate and international  
20 boundaries that were sent in furtherance of the scheme.

21 With respect to the statute of limitations argument --  
22 first of all, with respect to the conspiracy counts, there  
23 certainly is actions in furtherance of the conspiracies that  
24 goes well into all the way up into 2011, including the matched  
25 trading that occurred.

1 With respect to the substantive counts, there are  
2 specific use of the mails and wires that the defendant was  
3 directly involved in, and specifically we would point to that  
4 January 28th, 2000 letter that was sent to the New York Stock  
5 Exchange, both by mail and by wire, and that we, too, suggest  
6 contained material misrepresentations about the nature of the  
7 warrants and the shares that were issued to Mr. Shahini, and so  
8 we do believe that there is sufficient evidence in this record  
9 to allow this case to go to the jury.

10 THE COURT: Thank you.

11 Anything further?

12 MR. TREMONTE: Nothing further, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: The motions are denied.

14 Let me hear from you on the outstanding exhibits.

15 MR. BIALE: Your Honor, we've come to an agreement  
16 with the government on most of the exhibits that we submitted  
17 to your Honor that there were outstanding objections to. There  
18 are a few that remain. We gave a copy to your Honor, and we  
19 will get them from counsel table. But the ones that remain are  
20 Defendant's Exhibit 1000, Defendant's Exhibit 1001A,  
21 Defendant's Exhibit 1001B --

22 THE COURT: Wait. 1000.

23 MR. BIALE: 1001A, 1001B, 1001E, 1001H, and 1001L.

24 THE COURT: F?

25 MR. BIALE: L as in Leonard.

1 THE COURT: All right. And these are objections by  
2 the government to your exhibits?

3 MR. BIALE: Correct, on relevancy grounds.

4 THE COURT: So it's A, B, H, L?

5 MR. BIALE: Yes.

6 MS. HARRIS: And E.

7 MR. BIALE: And 1001E.

8 THE COURT: And 1001E?

9 MR. BIALE: Yes, your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right. I will rule on that shortly.  
11 Not this minute, but I will review the exhibits.

12 The government's objection is relevance?

13 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Yes, your Honor.

14 MR. BIALE: Your Honor, we can make a brief proffer as  
15 to their relevance?

16 THE COURT: Whatever you want to do.

17 MR. BIALE: Jack Doueck testified that he believed  
18 that the price of Gerova's shares were going down because of  
19 short sellers.

20 THE COURT: Right.

21 MR. BIALE: These exhibits establish that Mr. Hirst  
22 believed the same thing and, indeed, was told the same thing by  
23 Jason Galanis, and that he took steps to try to save the  
24 company from these short sellers. Accordingly, we think it's  
25 highly relevant to his state of mind and his knowledge about

1 the government's -- strike that -- his knowledge about the  
2 matched trading and directly rebuts the government's contention  
3 that Mr. Hirst was aware that stock price was going down due to  
4 these matched trading efforts. So it's highly relevant to  
5 rebut the government's evidence as to Mr. Hirst's state of  
6 mind.

7 THE COURT: Thank you.

8 MS. HECTOR: I'm sorry. We just don't see the  
9 relevance of these documents. First of all, they are prior to  
10 the issuance of the Dalrymple report.

11 THE COURT: So prior to the issuance --

12 MS. HECTOR: -- of the Dalrymple report. So to the  
13 extent Mr. Doueck indicated there was some concern post the  
14 printing of the Dalrymple report that there were short sellers  
15 in the market and responding to that, that was after January,  
16 2011, and the documents that they're seeking to admit, I  
17 believe, are from November, 2010, so prior to that.

18 MR. BLAIS: To the extent that there were short  
19 sellers in the market that may have been putting pressure on  
20 Gerova's price, it doesn't seem particularly relevant to the  
21 issues at trial. Some of those exhibits, for example, include  
22 an Amazon record that Mr. Hirst purchased a book about short  
23 selling, there's links to public articles about short selling,  
24 there's a Yahoo message board, so it sort of strays fairly  
25 afield we think from the issues that are at issue in the trial.

1 THE COURT: Could I impose on you to just look to see  
2 that what is in my hand right now is the only thing you are  
3 seeking to offer?

4 MR. BIALE: Yes, your Honor. We are missing one, your  
5 Honor.

6 THE COURT: Which one?

7 MR. BIALE: 1001A and 1001B.

8 THE COURT: Here's 1001A. And 1001B? I think it's  
9 there. Look for it.

10 MR. BIALE: B is here.

11 MR. BLAIS: Amazon is the 1000.

12 THE COURT: I was missing 1001. Thank you.

13 MR. BIALE: Yes. I stand corrected.

14 THE COURT: So with the inclusion of A, I have the  
15 complete universe. Thank you.

16 MR. BIALE: That's right, your Honor. If I can just  
17 briefly respond to the government's point. I believe  
18 Mr. Doueck's testimony was that the Dalrymple report evidenced  
19 short sellers that were in the market who are then spreading  
20 negative information about the company. So there was awareness  
21 that there were short sellers before, but irrespective of when  
22 these short sellers came about, it's inconsistent with the  
23 government's theory of Mr. Hirst's guilt that he knew that this  
24 market manipulation, or was reasonably foreseeable to him that  
25 this market manipulation would take place and would drive down

1 the price of the stock, and instead, he believed, as did other  
2 principals at Geroval, that the problem was short sellers, and  
3 as evidenced on the call that the government just played,  
4 Government's Exhibit 700, Mr. Galanis is still telling him, as  
5 of July, 2010, that he is hoping that the stock price will go  
6 up. So we think it's highly relevant to Mr. Hirst's state of  
7 mind.

8 THE COURT: How would you get these exhibits in? By  
9 stipulation?

10 MR. BIALE: Yes, your Honor.

11 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

12 (Continued on next page)  
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1 (In open court)

2 MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, the defense calls John  
3 Shumway. He's on his way in.

4 JOHN SHUMWAY,

5 called as a witness by the Defendant,

6 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

7 THE DEPUTY CLERK: State your name and spell the whole  
8 name for the record, please.

9 THE WITNESS: My name is John Shumway. J-o-h-n,  
10 S-h-u-m-w-a-y.

11 THE COURT: You may inquire.

12 MR. TREMONTE: Thank you, your Honor.

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. TREMONTE:

15 Q. Mr. Shumway, you have a laptop computer with you?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. Why don't you take it out and turn it on.

18 A. Sure.

19 MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, may I confer briefly with  
20 the courtroom deputy?

21 THE COURT: You may.

22 (Pause)

23 MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, we're just establishing a  
24 connection to the witness's laptop.

25 THE COURT: That's fine.

1 BY MR. TREMONTE:

2 Q. Mr. Shumway, can you confirm that you've connected your  
3 laptop?

4 A. Yes, it is connected.

5 Q. Thank you. Mr. Shumway, I don't know that we're going to  
6 succeed to connecting you to the courtroom system, so I think  
7 we're going to have to talk our way through the information.  
8 Okay?

9 A. Okay.

10 Q. Mr. Shumway, where do you work?

11 A. I work at Stroz Friedberg.

12 Q. What is Stroz Friedberg? What does it do?

13 A. Digital risk investigations and analysis, computer  
14 forensics, incident response.

15 Q. Who are Stroz Friedberg's clients?

16 A. Law firms, private companies, and the government,  
17 generally.

18 Q. How long have you worked at Stroz Friedberg?

19 A. I've been there for over eight years now.

20 Q. What's your position there?

21 A. I'm a senior consultant.

22 Q. In your job as a senior consultant at the firm, what do you  
23 do generally?

24 A. Generally, I make forensic copies of all sorts of  
25 electronic media; hard drives, laptops, desktops, mobile



1 images, cloud storage, webmail, and then conducting analysis on  
2 the same.

3 Q. What kind of cases do you work on?

4 A. It's a wide range. One of our more common types of cases  
5 we describe as a department employee review. Somebody will  
6 leave one company and go to a new one, and as part of that, one  
7 or the other of the companies will hire us to see if data was  
8 incorrectly taken from one company.

9 Q. So that's just one example of any number of different types  
10 of cases that you work on, correct?

11 A. Sure. We do data recovery, deletion analysis, those sorts  
12 of things, as well.

13 Q. Do you have a specialty within your firm, or are you a  
14 generalist, or both?

15 A. We're all pretty general. If I did have a specialty, I  
16 would say it was iPhone forensics.

17 Q. Tell us about your educational background after high  
18 school.

19 A. Sure. I graduated from UC Berkeley, University of  
20 California at Berkeley in 2007 with a music degree with honors,  
21 and then after starting at Stroz, I've done a number of  
22 external trainings there. Two from Guidance Software, that's a  
23 company that makes one of the more common forensic programs  
24 that we use, as well as an advanced mobile SmartPhone  
25 forensics, and a Hacker Tools and Techniques course. Those are

1 all external trainings.

2 Q. So you have specialized in training in computer forensics?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. Do you have any certifications?

5 A. Yes. GCIH. That was related to the Hacker Tools and  
6 Techniques. And GIAC certified incident handler certification.

7 Q. Have you ever testified before at a trial?

8 A. No, sir.

9 Q. In the course of your work, you perform, I think you said,  
10 forensic analyses of computer data?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. What kind of data do you analyze, generally?

13 A. It can be all sorts. Most of what we do is the files that  
14 relate to the hard drive, I would say. That's the data within  
15 the file itself, internal and external metadata, tracking those  
16 files, and similar.

17 Q. So digital computer files, correct?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. You also perform forensic analyses on digital document  
20 files?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. As well as cell phone data, it sounds like.

23 A. Yes. And some cloud storage, webmail, that sort of thing.

24 Q. You're familiar with the concept of metadata? I think you  
25 just referred to it?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. What is metadata?

3 A. Generally, metadata is described as data about the data.

4 It's information about the information stored on disk.

5 Q. Is metadata created automatically?

6 A. Yes. Most metadata is created by the computer, although  
7 there are certain fields that would track what a user could put  
8 in.

9 Q. When you say "created by a computer", that would be by some  
10 kind of a software program running on the computer?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. What kind of things can you learn from metadata?

13 A. Metadata can and does track almost anything. It can be  
14 programmed, or a program can be designed to put anything into  
15 metadata. But the more common fields are things like  
16 geolocation data, the coordinates a picture was taken,  
17 timestamps, author, the make and model of a camera, if it's a  
18 picture, the length of a video might also be in metadata.

19 Q. The metadata can also tell you information about the  
20 computer that's running the software?

21 A. Yes. It can tell you about the software. Sometimes the  
22 computer runs the software, and you can make inferences about  
23 computers based upon the software that was running.

24 Q. Can the metadata sometimes also record information about,  
25 for example, the version of the software that's running?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. What kind of information about the version of the software  
3 do you find in metadata?

4 A. Generally, software is given a number. So you'll have a  
5 particular version of the software, and that number will be  
6 assigned. When you get a new version, that software, that  
7 number is updated, so that tells you something about which  
8 version of software was running at the time.

9 Q. Do you personally have experience from your work analyzing  
10 metadata?

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Have you analyzed metadata in the cases that you've worked  
13 on during your tenure at Stroz Friedberg?

14 A. Yes, sir. I would say the vast majority of cases involve  
15 some form of metadata.

16 MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, at this time the defense  
17 offers Mr. Shumway as an expert.

18 THE COURT: Any objection?

19 MR. BLAIS: No objection, your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 BY MR. TREMONTE:

22 Q. Mr. Shumway, tell us when you became involved in this case.

23 A. Just earlier this month. September 13th of this month.

24 Q. Were you provided with documents or other materials?

25 A. Yes. My supervisor forwarded me an email that had four

attached documents.

Q. Do you know where your supervisor got the email from?

MR. BLAIS: Objection, your Honor.

THE COURT: Do you know the answer to that question?

THE WITNESS: Where my supervisor received it?

THE COURT: Yes.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Okay. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: He received it from his manager who was managing the case, who received it from, I believe, the law firm.

MR. TREMONTE: If we may have a moment. Since we can't bring up the -- I'm told there may be a way to bring up the computer. Hold on one second.

(Pause)

BY MR. TREMONTE:

Q. Mr. Shumway, can you bring up the -- turn on your laptop again. I think we're going to try to run it off of our table.

I'm going to skip ahead a little bit, and I'm going to ask you to bring up the metadata file that I anticipate we'll be asking you about. If you can do that, then we'll bring the laptop to the defense table and plug it in.

MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, while we're connecting, can we come up for a very brief sidebar?

THE COURT: Yes.

(At sidebar)

THE COURT: I'm reasonably sure that this trial has broken the record for the number of sidebars that I've permitted. Not the number that have been requested, but certainly the number that I've permitted. Go for it.

MR. TREMONTE: I'm sorry, your Honor. So the exhibit is a digital file. It doesn't exist in the world except on computers. So I just wanted to make clear with the government, I think we're on the same page, that we're going to agree that the witness has on his computer a copy of Government's Exhibit 509D, which is a digital copy of the warrant agreement together with its metadata.

THE COURT: Well, as is customary in this district, a representative of the government is welcome to stand right behind the witness and observe in realtime what he's looking at.

MR. BLAIS: We have no objection. We understand the file to be 509D. So we have no objection to him --

THE COURT: But if anybody wants to stand there, they're welcome.

MR. BLAIS: I would rather not.

THE COURT: You'll be standing at defense table because we're going to put the laptop up there.

MR. BLAIS: That may be more appealing.

MS. MERMELSTEIN: You may have it being worked out for

1 you.

2 MR. TREMONTE: Great.

3 THE COURT: Okay, thank you.

4 (Continued on next page)

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1 (In open court)

2 THE COURT: Are we ready to go?

3 MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, given the issues that are  
4 particular to digital data, we have reached an understanding  
5 that I will ask Mr. Shumway questions about certain data that  
6 he was able to look at in 509D. Government's Exhibit 509D.  
7 After Mr. Shumway's testimony, we're going to prepare an exact  
8 replica of that information, put it on a CD, and make it  
9 available to the government and to the Court.

10 THE COURT: That's acceptable to the government?

11 MR. BLAIS: Yes. We have no objection. We just want  
12 to preserve the materials.

13 THE COURT: I have it. Good idea.

14 Thank you. You may proceed.

15 BY MR. TREMONTE:

16 Q. Mr. Shumway, I'm going to ask you, do you have on your  
17 computer there what's been marked as Government's Exhibit 509D?  
18 I'm going to refer to it at the Shahini warrant.

19 A. I do have a copy of it, yes.

20 Q. A copy on your computer, correct?

21 A. Correct.

22 MR. TREMONTE: Madam Deputy, can you publish that to  
23 the jury's screen, please? We've got it.

24 BY MR. TREMONTE:

25 Q. Mr. Shumway, what kind of file is that?



1 A. The Shahini warrant file?

2 Q. Yes, sir.

3 A. That is a PDF file.

4 Q. Okay. And what is a PDF?

5 A. PDF stands for portable document format. It's a format  
6 that was devised essentially to allow people to share documents  
7 with someone else who may not have the exact same software.

8 Q. How are PDF's created?

9 A. There's a number of ways. Commonly these days you would  
10 create a PDF by converting it from another form of document. A  
11 Word document would very often be converted into a PDF. A  
12 second one is to print to PDF. That's essentially the same  
13 process, but the Word program thinks it's actually sending the  
14 document to a printer, another program acts as a sort of  
15 middleman and creates the PDF.

16 Q. Now, directing your attention to the exhibit, which we'll  
17 just call the Shahini warrant, do you know how the Shahini  
18 warrant was created, that PDF?

19 A. Yes. That wasn't either of those two ways, it was scanned  
20 using a scanner or copier sort of machine, and was created in  
21 PDF that way.

22 Q. Does the Shahini warrant contain metadata?

23 A. It does.

24 Q. Did you analyze the metadata?

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. Did you use tools to analyze the metadata?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. What tools did you use?

4 A. I used Adobe Reader and Acrobat. Those are the most common  
5 publicly available tools for those. I also used what we would  
6 refer to as forensic tools. Exif Tool was one, that looks at  
7 the internal metadata of a variety of files, as well as Xpdf,  
8 and then I also looked at the files themselves in two different  
9 forensic applications, MTK and EnCase.

10 Q. I count two Adobe programs and four other forensic  
11 programs; is that correct?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. That's a total of six tools that you used?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. Let's start with the Adobe ones. You said you used Adobe  
16 Reader?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. What did you learn from inspecting the metadata of the  
19 Shahini warrant with Adobe Reader?

20 A. Adobe Reader showed a number of metadata fields, including  
21 a creation time, a modification time, an author, a title, and  
22 an application field. That referred to the application that  
23 created it.

24 Q. Can you walk us through those? What did you find?

25 A. Sure. The creation time had a creation timestamp of

1 April 9th, 2010. The last modification time, which refers only  
2 to the last time that document was changed, was September 27th,  
3 2010. The author field was Admin 1, the number 1. The title  
4 field was blank, and the application was ScanSnap Manager.

5 Q. Then you said, I think the other Adobe program you used to  
6 analyze the metadata was Adobe Acrobat; is that correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What did you learn when you analyzed the metadata using  
9 Adobe Acrobat?

10 A. Acrobat had a few -- well, allowed me to see a few further  
11 metadata fields, including, instead of "application", that  
12 field was named "creator". So ScanSnap Manager was labeled as  
13 the creator when you viewed it through Adobe Acrobat.

14 There was also a metadata timestamp, which was also  
15 September 27th, the same time as the last modification  
16 timestamp. That's 2010.

17 There was a data time associated with the version of  
18 XMP, which is a built-in protocol that Adobe uses to store  
19 metadata.

20 Q. Can you just explain a little bit more about the XMP  
21 protocol? What does that mean, "a protocol"?

22 A. Sure. So there are different ways of storing metadata in a  
23 PDF. The one that Adobe has began using with version 1.4 of  
24 PDFs was called XMP. That's extensible metadata platform.  
25 It's just the way that they design metadata to be stored in a

PDF. So the version of this particular XMP toolkit that was used in this file was dated from 2009.

Q. Using Acrobat, you were able to get a little bit more information than you were using Reader.

A. Yes, sir.

Q. The date of 2009 for the XMP protocol -- do I have that right?

A. Yes.

Q. -- is that consistent with the other information that you saw in the metadata using Adobe Acrobat?

A. Yes, sir. At the time of the creation or modification, the XMP protocol in use was enabled, so that would be internally consistent.

Q. In other words, the 2009 XMP protocols is before the April, 2010 create date.

A. Correct.

Q. And that's internally consistent.

A. Yes, sir.

Q. It would be inconsistent if your XMP protocol was, say, 2015 and your create date was 2001.

A. Correct.

Q. What, if anything, were you able to determine using the Adobe programs about the device that was used to create the document?

A. So the application, as listed in Adobe Reader, and the

1 creator as listed in Acrobat was ScanSnap Manager, which I did  
2 a bit of research, and that is a piece of software published by  
3 Fujitsu for use with their scanners.

4 Q. When you say "published by Fujitsu" that is that Fujitsu  
5 writes the software that runs the devices that they sell?

6 A. Yes. It's available for download from their website.

7 Q. Okay. Did you do research to determine whether or not that  
8 software comes bundled with the scanner?

9 A. Yes. Depending on the version you bought, ScanSnap Manager  
10 comes along with the scanners, as well as either Adobe Reader  
11 or Acrobat, depending on the version. This was true in 2010,  
12 as far as the results of my research.

13 Q. Let's move to the other tools that you used. I think there  
14 were four others. Let's start with the first one you  
15 mentioned, which I believe is Exif. What is Exif?

16 A. Exif Tool is an openly available piece of software which  
17 was originally designed to analyze and change large numbers of  
18 metadata tags in photographs. If a photographer wanted to  
19 update a lot of photographs at once, they could run this tool.  
20 It has since been useful in that it can pull out metadata from  
21 a large number of types of files.

22 Q. When you say "openly available", what does that mean?

23 A. It's free to download, the instructions are published on  
24 the web, it's part of any open source forensics toolkit.

25 THE COURT: Open source forensics? Is that what you

1 said, sir?

2 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: Forensics, and what was the word after the  
4 word "forensics".

5 THE WITNESS: Toolkit.

6 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

7 Q. In your experience, this is a widely used tool for the  
8 purpose of analyzing metadata forensically?

9 A. Yes. It's one of the few listed on Wikipedias or others  
10 sort of how-to instruction manuals for forensics.

11 Q. How does it work?

12 A. It's a command line tool, which means that there's no  
13 interface for clicking, it's not a window that you use. So  
14 it's all typed into a command line, and there are a number of  
15 flags or switches that you use to determine exactly how the  
16 process will run.

17 Q. Can you visually display on your computer screen what you  
18 bought up in Exif, or just with other programs? The metadata,  
19 I mean.

20 A. I can show the output of the Exif Tool. I could also show  
21 the running of the Exif Tool. Either way.

22 Q. Can you show the output, please.

23 A. Certainly. So this is the first 31 lines of the output.

24 Q. And how many lines does it run to?

25 A. 774.

1 Q. Again, this is all metadata, this is all sort of  
2 automatically created and stored information that you find when  
3 you perform this kind of analysis?

4 A. Yes. Some of this is a summary built by Exif, and some of  
5 this is sort of administrative overhead of Exif, as well.

6 Q. You can take that down.

7 So using Exif, what did you learn about the metadata  
8 in the Shahini warrant, if anything?

9 A. Certainly. So in Exif, I discovered that there were  
10 multiple PDF dictionaries which stored metadata. In  
11 particular, there were two different dictionaries which had --  
12 one was the XMP protocol, as I mentioned earlier, the other was  
13 simply a document information dictionary. Each of those  
14 dictionaries had a set of creation modification dates, as well  
15 as author, title, and application.

16 Q. All right. So let's break that down.

17 First of all, what's a dictionary? You referred to "a  
18 dictionary". What's a dictionary? We all know what a  
19 dictionary is in general -- I'm sorry, strike the question --  
20 in the context of the analysis of the metadata in this  
21 document. You testified that Exif revealed there were two  
22 different metadata dictionaries, correct?

23 A. There were three in total, but two that contained  
24 timestamps, yes.

25 Q. Thank you for the clarification. Just if you could clarify

1 for us, what does the word "dictionary" mean in this context?

2 A. Sure. In this context, in the metadata, it's essentially a  
3 container for the metadata.

4 Q. Okay. So in other words, if there are three dictionaries,  
5 there are three different collections of metadata --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- in the document.

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. Could you determine how those dictionaries were created?

10 A. Not specifically. The dictionaries don't say necessarily  
11 what program creates them.

12 Q. But they're created by a program.

13 A. Yes. Those are created as part of the automatic processes  
14 that created metadata.

15 Q. Could you tell whether or not the dictionaries were created  
16 by the same or different programs?

17 A. Not directly. It's not inherent in the metadata. But the  
18 difference in the way in which it was stored, the fact that one  
19 was a simple dictionary and the other was the XMP dictionary  
20 would lead me to believe that there were different programs  
21 that created them.

22 Q. Why don't you tell us what you found in those containers,  
23 those dictionaries.

24 A. Sure. The XMP dictionary, that seemed to be the dictionary  
25 that Adobe displays when it is open and when you look at the



1 properties. That had the creation date of April 9th. The  
2 modification date of September 27th, the blank title, admin 1  
3 is the author.

4 The other dictionary, which did not have the XMP  
5 protocol and was not necessarily displayed by Acrobat or  
6 Reader, had a creation date of April 9th, a last modification  
7 date of April 9th, and a title that was not blank.

8 Q. What was the title?

9 A. The title was Partnership\_AGR\_Balkin.

10 Q. And how do you spell Balkin?

11 A. B-a-l-k-i-n.

12 Q. Not having you spell Balkin, how was the word Balkin  
13 spelled in the XMP metadata dictionary that you observed using  
14 this tool?

15 A. It was spelled B-a-l-k-i-n. And just to clarify, it was in  
16 the non-XMP metadata dictionary.

17 Q. Thank you for the clarification. Okay.

18 So the creation dates of April 9th, 2010 agreed as  
19 between the XMP container and the other container?

20 A. Yes, both were identical.

21 Q. You testified earlier about internal consistency. What, if  
22 anything, did the information that you saw in these multiple  
23 dictionaries tell you about the internal consistency of this  
24 information?

25 A. I would say that between these two containers, they were

1 both internally consistent. The only conclusion I would draw  
2 is that whatever program caused the change that updated the  
3 modification time with the XMP container to September 27th did  
4 not also affect the other.

5 Q. Okay. So that would suggest there's two separate programs  
6 operating independently of each other, correct?

7 A. I would say that's the most likely. Either two separate  
8 programs operating independently, or simply one program that  
9 did the modification at some point that did not affect the  
10 non-XMP dictionary, yes.

11 Q. Okay. Then the next tool that you used, I think was called  
12 Xpdf?

13 A. Yes. That's a suite of tools that I used, one executed  
14 from that suite.

15 Q. Which one?

16 A. PDFinfo.exe.

17 Q. What, if anything, did you learn from that?

18 A. That displayed a smaller set of metadata that agreed with  
19 everything from Exif.

20 Q. And how about, were you able to obtain additional  
21 information from the other tools that you used?

22 A. Nothing different, no.

23 Q. Also, in addition to performing these analyses using these  
24 tools, did you do any other research; for example, internet  
25 research?

1 A. Yes. I did some internet research looking for what the  
2 ScanSnap Manager was and what it was bundled with, as well as  
3 what version of software were available at the time in 2010.

4 Q. What did you find?

5 A. The version of the XMP Toolkit in use was available at the  
6 time, as well as the version of Acrobat Distiller that created  
7 PDF.

8 Q. Again, back to the Shahini warrant. The metadata shows a  
9 create date of April 9th, 2010; is that correct?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. Is that evidence of the actual creation date of the  
12 document in your view?

13 A. Not necessarily. As a forensic examiner, we have to  
14 understand the possibilities of metadata being changed or any  
15 other data that we look at.

16 Q. So to conclude that that April 9th create date is accurate,  
17 you have to make some assumptions, correct?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. For example, why don't you give us some examples?

20 A. Sure. The PDF only knows what time it is based on the  
21 clock of the computer created. So we would have to assume that  
22 the clock that created -- the clock on the computer that  
23 created that PDF would also be correct.

24 Q. Okay. So computers have internal clocks, correct?

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. Do these typically update automatically?

2 A. They can if you are part of a network that is administered  
3 by IT professionals, or it might check certain sources on the  
4 internet.

5 Q. Also, if you set your personal computer to have the time  
6 automatically updated and you're connected to the internet,  
7 that will also result in your clock being set accurately; is  
8 that right?

9 A. Yes, sir.

10 Q. You said that you are aware of other ways that metadata can  
11 be altered. Can you describe some of those to us?

12 A. Sure. So there are metadata editors for PDFs that can be  
13 downloaded. Those would allow you to change certain metadata  
14 fields, including those that Adobe might not allow you to.

15 Adobe itself allows you to change certain metadata  
16 fields like title, author, that sort of thing. If the clock is  
17 purposely set incorrectly, that would also change the metadata  
18 in PDF.

19 Q. Based on your analysis of the metadata on this document,  
20 the Shahini warrant, did you find any evidence that the  
21 metadata for the document was altered?

22 A. There was no evidence to suggest that it was, no.

23 Q. In certain indications when metadata has been altered, are  
24 you able to determine that?

25 A. Yes, in certain circumstances.

1 Q. How?

2 A. It relates to that internal consistency I mentioned, if a  
3 document claims to have been created by a program that wasn't  
4 available at the time. If the document says it was created in  
5 2001 and the program wasn't written until last year, that would  
6 be an indication of that data.

7 Q. Do you see any of those factors present in this metadata?

8 A. No, sir.

9 Q. Now, you mentioned that, in addition to the create date,  
10 there's also a modification date of September 27, 2010. Can  
11 you explain to us, what are the types of things that could  
12 cause the metadata to indicate there was a modification that  
13 would leave that indication?

14 A. Certainly. So the modification timestamp tracks the last  
15 time something was changed. That could be a change in the  
16 metadata itself, I mentioned updating the author field, that  
17 might change the metadata timestamp, as well as the last  
18 modification timestamp. Any changes to the content of the  
19 document that would cause it to be saved would also update that  
20 modification time. And with this particular file format, PDF,  
21 if you create a new PDF, that keeps the old creation time but  
22 causes a new modification time to be created.

23 Q. Did you form an opinion as to what caused the modification  
24 of this document on September 27th, 2010?

25 A. There are a few possibilities. One of them relates to the

1 difference in the title fields. One is blank, the other is  
2 not. So it could have been something that related to the  
3 change of the metadata of the title.

4 Another option is, if something was received by email  
5 and then saved to someone's desktop, that save-as action would  
6 update the modification time.

7 Q. Would something as simple as saving the document to a  
8 desktop potentially cause an alteration that would result in  
9 that modification indication?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. And how about an automatic upgrade to the Adobe software?

12 A. That's certainly possible. If there was a change at some  
13 point and it was saved under a new format, that might cause an  
14 update to the modification time in the file.

15 Q. You also looked at the text of the document itself,  
16 correct?

17 A. Very briefly, yes.

18 Q. Did you form an opinion based on your analysis of whether  
19 or not the text of the document was altered?

20 A. I did conduct a thorough analysis to see if it was altered,  
21 but based on a quick visual inspection, and the fact that it  
22 was a scanned document and not a converted document, I would  
23 say that any alteration to the file would be relatively evident  
24 to the layman. The document has the sort of imperfections,  
25 dark spots, it's not exactly square to the page that you would

1 expect from a scanned document.

2 Q. Okay. Based on your analysis of the document, and in  
3 particular the metadata, did you reach any conclusions about  
4 when it was created?

5 A. There were two different internal create dates that listed  
6 a time of April 9th, 2010.

7 Q. Okay. Now, did that suggest to you that the create date  
8 was accurate?

9 A. I saw no indication to suggest that it wasn't.

10 Q. Given that you found these two separate metadata  
11 containers, if someone were determined to alter the create date  
12 in an internally consistent way, what would that entail?

13 A. If a user wanted to intentionally alter the internal  
14 metadata, they would need to use a program that displayed not  
15 just the one, but both of the internal creation times. Either  
16 that, or if they were going to use the clock to backdate the  
17 PDF, they would have to know of the presence of the second  
18 dictionary and know of a program that would affect one  
19 dictionary but not the other in order to make it look the way  
20 it currently does.

21 Q. What would it take to figure out how to do those things?

22 A. I would say some internet research, and then probably a lot  
23 of trial and error.

24 Q. And based on your experience, how long would you estimate  
25 that that would take to do, someone who is knowledgeable about

1 this kind of thing?

2 A. If I were going to be doing something like that, I would  
3 probably estimate a day and a half to two days to conduct the  
4 research. It's possible I would find a solution sooner, but I  
5 certainly wouldn't promise it any sooner than that.

6 (Continued on next page)

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1 Q. Do you have any reason to believe that the metadata in the  
2 Shahini warrant was altered in any way?

3 A. No evidence to suggest that, no.

4 MR. TREMONTE: No further questions, your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. It's time for our lunch break.  
6 So, ladies and gentlemen, please do not discuss the case among  
7 yourselves or with anyone. We will be back in action at 2:00.  
8 Thank you.

9 (Jury exits courtroom)

10 (Continued on next page)

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1 THE COURT: I want to just talk about the exhibits  
2 which the parties are asking for a ruling on.

3 MR. TREMONTE: The witness --

4 THE COURT: You may step down.

5 With regard to 1001B, it's Jason Galanis informing  
6 Gary Hirst that on Yahoo message boards there is indications of  
7 individuals shorting the stock or thinking shorting the stock  
8 is a swell idea, as of November 26, 2010.

9 What is the evidentiary value of that?

10 MR. BIALE: Your Honor, I think it just shows  
11 consistently with Mr. Doueck's testimony and the other  
12 documents that we have submitted that Jason Galanis was  
13 continuing to tell people at Geroval that shorting the stock was  
14 the cause of the diminishment of the stock price, and that is  
15 something that we contend Mr. Hirst believed. So it's relevant  
16 to his understanding about what occurred.

17 THE COURT: How is that a reasonable inference to be  
18 drawn from this? He passes on two message board postings that  
19 suggests that individuals think shorting the stock is a good  
20 idea, or are shorting the stock.

21 MR. BIALE: I think it connects with the other  
22 documents with the fact that Mr. Hirst ordered a book on this  
23 subject and was coming up with a plan to try to deal with this  
24 short-selling problem.

25 It also suggests that, if Mr. Hirst were in the

1 criminal scheme that the government alleges with Jason Galanis,  
2 there would be no reason for Jason Galanis to sending him this  
3 information. So we think it is contrary to the government's  
4 theory of Mr. Hirst's guilt.

5 THE COURT: Let me hear from the government.

6 MR. BLAIS: I am not really following that last line  
7 of argument about Mr. Galanis sending information about why the  
8 stock price is where it is. We still fail to see the relevance  
9 as to why explanations about short sellers being in the market  
10 and strategies to deal with short sellers are at all relevant  
11 to the issue of whether there was a fraudulent issuance of  
12 shares to Mr. Shahini.

13 THE COURT: At what point in time were the shares  
14 transferred to Mr. Shahini being sold?

15 MR. BLAIS: So the shares were transferred to Mr.  
16 Shahini on May 27. As your Honor may recall from the testimony  
17 of Ms. Akdeniz, they were originally deposited in a brokerage  
18 account that within a couple of weeks rejected them. So there  
19 is no trading of those shares for a period of time.

20 I think the first set of sales of the Shahini shares  
21 was on June 14. And if you may recall the testimony of Mr.  
22 Hinton, there was a big spike in volume on June 25, which I  
23 think the evidence would suggest was when CK Cooper, the  
24 brokerage firm that actually did allow the sales of the shares,  
25 realized that there was a large margin balance and started

1 automatically selling the Shahini shares. So I think beginning  
2 in mid-June and continuing thereafter.

3 THE COURT: Until?

4 MR. BLAIS: Really until the shares were delisted in  
5 February of 2011. I think there is evidence, I believe it's  
6 Government Exhibit 904, which is the chart that Mr. Hinton  
7 introduced yesterday, of matched trading between the Shahini  
8 accounts and Tagliaferri and his clients that extended through  
9 January of 2011.

10 THE COURT: Let me ask you, is it plausible that  
11 persons in the marketplace would think that there was short  
12 selling going on?

13 MR. BLAIS: I think there was, in fact, some short  
14 selling of Gerova going on. I think Mr. Dalrymple, who issued  
15 the report, himself was in fact a short seller.

16 So I do think it is plausible for market participants  
17 to believe that there was short selling. And certainly the  
18 amount of short activity that there is, something called short  
19 interest, is I think a reported data point, one can find that  
20 on Bloomberg or other publicly available information sources.  
21 So, yes, I think that is something that would filter into the  
22 market.

23 THE COURT: Does the government contend that Mr. Hirst  
24 had knowledge of the manner in which the Shahini shares were  
25 being sold?

1 MR. BLAIS: Not specifically, no. In terms of through  
2 matched trading?

3 THE COURT: Through matched trading.

4 MR. BLAIS: Not specifically, no.

5 THE COURT: And the matched trading began in June?

6 MR. BLAIS: The matched trading, I think the evidence  
7 from Mr. Hinton was that the first coordinated trade between  
8 the Martin Kelly accounts and the Shahini accounts was on July  
9 22, 2010.

10 Just to supplement my previous response, I don't  
11 believe we have direct evidence that Mr. Hirst knew the manner  
12 in which they were being sold. I think we articulated the  
13 argument yesterday, that we believe to be true, given the small  
14 public float of Gerova -- there are about 10 million shares of  
15 publicly traded, 5 million of which were held by Mr. Shahini --  
16 that it was a reasonable assumption, or one should have known,  
17 that the only way to dispose of such a large quantity of  
18 shares, given the small public float, was through some sort of  
19 manipulative means.

20 THE COURT: All right. Anything else?

21 MR. BIALE: Your Honor, I think the whole basis that  
22 the government has asserted for the testimony of Gavin Hamels  
23 and all of the evidence about the matched trading being  
24 relevant is that that was conduct that was reasonably  
25 foreseeable to Mr. Hirst. I think his understanding that short

1 sellers were the problem is evidence that goes to his state of  
2 mind and also shows lulling by Jason Galanis during the  
3 period --

4 THE COURT: Shows what?

5 MR. BIALE: Lulling.

6 THE COURT: Tell me about Exhibit 1001E.

7 "Rights offering. We would love to take credit, but  
8 Gary came up with what could turn out to be a great idea. We  
9 are looking into it and must talk to Bermuda counsel in the  
10 morning. If it works, we will call it Dr. Hirst's poison  
11 pill." December 1, 2010.

12 MR. TREMONTE: Yes, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: I understand, and correct me if I am  
14 wrong, the plan is for the document to walk in, in essence, on  
15 its own two feet by a stipulation. So it's not going to be the  
16 subject of testimony, as I understand it.

17 MR. TREMONTE: Our plan is to have our paralegal read  
18 these documents into evidence. 1001E connects with 1001L. We  
19 chose these as a representative sample. There are, in fact,  
20 dozens of e-mails that talk about the formulation of this plan  
21 to defeat the short sellers through a rights offering. That  
22 was proposed to Steve Weiss, the outside counsel at Hodgson  
23 Russ, who was, at least initially, attracted to it, proposed  
24 that it be the subject of a board vote, and referred to it as  
25 Dr. Hirst's poison pill. And I think by that it's fairly clear

1 that he meant what corporate lawyers typically mean by a poison  
2 pill, namely, something that prevents short selling by tying up  
3 or modifying the rights of holders in some way.

4 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

5 We are in recess. I appreciate it.

6 (Luncheon recess)

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1 AFTERNOON SESSION

2 2:00 p.m.

3 (Jury not present)

4 THE COURT: I am exclude be 1001H. The other  
5 documents will be received.

6 What is left, Mr. Tremonte? Where are we now?

7 MR. TREMONTE: I believe the government is going to  
8 cross-examine, Mr. Shumway.

9 THE COURT: After that you have another witness?

10 MR. TREMONTE: We do. I believe we have three more  
11 witnesses. We have someone from our office who is going to  
12 read e-mails. We have Mr. Mullings from Continental Stock  
13 Transfer. And then we have Tracey Hirst. And Jan Goleszewski  
14 who is the Cayman's witness.

15 THE COURT: Bring our jury in.

16 (Continued on next page)

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1 (Jury present)

2 JOHN SHUMWAY, resumed.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Blais.

4 CROSS-EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. BLAIS:

6 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Shumway.

7 A. Good afternoon.

8 Q. Now, Mr. Shumway, you testified on direct about create date  
9 metadata in PDF files, correct?

10 A. That is correct.

11 Q. And metadata is, I think you explained, just data about  
12 data?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. It's data about the characteristics of a particular file?

15 A. Yes, generally.

16 Q. Now, create dates in a file are automatically generated  
17 correct?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. And the create date basically just borrows from the  
20 internal clock in the computer, correct?

21 A. In those circumstances, yes.

22 Q. Now, assuming there is no manipulation after the fact,  
23 whatever the computer's internal clock is set to you when the  
24 document is created is what will be reflected as the create  
25 date in the metadata, correct?

1 A. There are some variations for time zones, but yes.

2 Q. You would agree that if a document is created on a computer  
3 where the clock is set incorrect, then the metadata will be  
4 incorrect, the create date metadata will be incorrect?

5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. It's not particularly hard to change the internal clock of  
7 a computer, is it?

8 A. It can depend on the system settings.

9 Q. But in a Windows operating setting, it's actually pretty  
10 easy to change the internal clock on the computer, correct?

11 A. Again, it depends on the settings. I actually don't have  
12 the rights to change certain time settings in my computer.

13 Q. And that's because you're part of a networked system?

14 A. It's more so that we can't accidentally run a program; it's  
15 a lack of administrator rights.

16 Q. But that's because you're part of a corporate network,  
17 correct?

18 A. Sure.

19 Q. On your personal computer at home, it's fairly  
20 straightforward to change the internal clock of your computer,  
21 correct?

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. You just have to right click on the time in the bottom  
24 right-hand corner of your screen, correct?

25 A. Right click and then make changes to the time zone and the

1 time, yes.

2 Q. That takes about ten seconds or so?

3 A. About that, yes.

4 Q. Maybe 20?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. But it's not particularly difficult to change the internal  
7 clock of a computer, correct?

8 A. No, if you have the rights.

9 Q. Now, if the internal clock was changed in the ten seconds  
10 or so that it takes to change the internal clock, and then a  
11 PDF document was generated on that computer with the wrong  
12 internal clock settings, the create date of the PDF document  
13 would be wrong, correct?

14 A. The internal metadata, yes.

15 Q. Now, you testified on direct about something that would  
16 take you a day-and-a-half or two days to figure out. Do you  
17 recall that?

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. That was referring to changing the metadata in a document  
20 after the document had already been created, correct?

21 A. Changing multiple different sets of metadata, yes.

22 Q. Because changing the clock before a document was created  
23 would only take about ten seconds or so, correct?

24 A. For the creation time, yes.

25 Q. It wouldn't take day-and-a-half or two days, correct?

1 A. No, sir.

2 Q. Now, the clock on a computer can also reset on its own,  
3 correct?

4 A. Under certain circumstances, yes.

5 Q. You're familiar with the CMOS battery in a computer?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. CMOS just stands for complementary metal-oxide  
8 semiconductor?

9 A. Yes, sir.

10 Q. The CMOS is the chip in the computer that provides start-up  
11 data to the computer, like the date and time, correct?

12 A. Yes. It provides long-term storage; when the computer is  
13 powered down, the CMOS is actually a very low power chip.

14 Q. And one of the things that's included in that long-term  
15 storage is the date and time in the computer's internal clock,  
16 correct?

17 A. Yes, sir.

18 Q. And if that computer's CMOS runs dry, the battery runs out,  
19 doesn't the computer's internal clock reset?

20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. There is also software available to change the create date  
22 metadata in a PDF file, correct?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. Are you familiar with a software program called A-PDF INFO  
25 Changer?

1 A. I believe that was one of several that I did look at, yes.

2 Q. Are you familiar with a software program called  
3 BeCyPDFMetaEdit?

4 A. Not specifically that program, no.

5 Q. What about a software program called FileDate Changer?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. Those are all software programs that can be downloaded from  
8 the Internet, correct?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Those are all programs that allow the user to change  
11 various metadata in a PDF file, correct?

12 A. Yes, sir. In some of those I tested, it did not actually  
13 allow you to change all metadata. It allowed you to change the  
14 metadata displayed in Acrobat.

15 Q. Create date is one of the meta-dated pieces of information  
16 that's displayed in Acrobat, correct?

17 A. Specifically one of two create dates from the PDF, yes.

18 Q. Now, Mr. Shumway, in order to conclude that the Shahini  
19 warrant file that we have looked at earlier was created on  
20 April 9, 2010, you have to assume that the clock on the  
21 computer where the document was created was set to the correct  
22 date and time, correct?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. And you have already agreed that it's possible for the  
25 clock on a computer to be changed, correct?

1 MR. TREMONTE: Objection. Asked and answered.

2 THE COURT: I will allow it.

3 Q. That can take just a few seconds, correct?

4 A. It is possible, yes.

5 Q. You don't know, sitting here today, whether the clock of  
6 the computer on which the Shahini warrant document was created  
7 was set to the correct date?

8 A. I have no access to that computer.

9 Q. You haven't examined the computer on which the Shahini  
10 warrant agreement was created, have you?

11 A. No, sir.

12 Q. You have no independent evidence that the clock on the  
13 computer on which that document was created was set to April 9,  
14 2010 on April 9, 2010?

15 MR. TREMONTE: Objection. Foundation.

16 THE COURT: No. I will allow it.

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. And defense counsel never gave you any computers to  
19 analyze, did they?

20 A. No, sir.

21 Q. Never gave you any hard drives to analyze, did they?

22 A. No, sir.

23 MR. BLAIS: No further questions.

24 THE COURT: Any redirect?

25 MR. TREMONTE: No redirect. Thank you.

1 THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down.

2 (Witness excused)

3 THE COURT: Call your next witness.

4 MS. HARRIS: We would like to read some stipulations  
5 into the record.

6 THE COURT: All right. That's fine.

7 MR. BIALE: I will read from a stipulation that has  
8 been marked as Defendant's Trial Exhibit 1300.

9 "It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and among Gary  
10 Hirst, the defendant, by and with the consent of his attorneys,  
11 Michael Tremonte, Justine Harris and Noam Biale, and the United  
12 States of America, by Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for  
13 the Southern District of New York, Brian Blais, Aimee Hector  
14 and Rebecca Mermelstein, Assistant United States Attorneys, of  
15 counsel, that:

16 "Defense Exhibits DX 300 to 305, DX 307, DX 311, DX  
17 332, DX 334, and DX 337 are true and correct copies of records  
18 that were created, kept and maintained in the ordinary course  
19 of business of Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, and  
20 were created by persons with knowledge of, or created from  
21 information transmitted by persons with knowledge of, the  
22 information shown, and were created at or near the time the  
23 information became available.

24 "It is further stipulated and agreed by and among the  
25 parties that this stipulation and the defense exhibits set

1 forth herein are admissible as defense exhibits in trial."

2 It is dated September 11, 2016, and signed the  
3 parties.

4 I am now going to read from Defendant's Trial  
5 Exhibit --

6 THE COURT: Are you offering the exhibits?

7 MR. BIALE: And I offer them.

8 THE COURT: They are received.

9 (Defendant's Exhibits 300 to 305, 307, 311, 332, 334,  
10 337 and 1300 received in evidence)

11 MR. BIALE: I am now going to read from Defendant's  
12 Trial Exhibit 1301.

13 "It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and among Gary  
14 Hirst, the defendant, by and with the content of his attorneys,  
15 Michael Tremonte, Justine Harris and Noam Biale, and the United  
16 States of America, by Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for  
17 the Southern District of New York, Brian Blais, Aimee Hector  
18 and Rebecca Mermelstein, Assistant United States Attorneys, of  
19 counsel, that:

20 "Defense Exhibit 200 is a true and accurate copy of an  
21 e-mail from the e-mail account of Stephen Weiss with e-mail  
22 address bigshmulic@aol.com.

23 "It is further stipulated and agreed by and among the  
24 parties that this stipulation is admissible at trial."

25 It is dated September 11, 2016, and signed by the



parties, and I offer the stipulation and exhibits.

THE COURT: Any objection?

MR. BLAIS: No objection.

THE COURT: Received.

(Defendant's Exhibit 1301 and 200 received in evidence)

MR. BIALE: This is Defendant's Trial Exhibit 1302.

"It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and among Gary Hirst, the defendant, by and with the consent of his attorneys, Michael Tremonte, Justine Harris and Noam Biale, and the United States of America, by Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, Brian Blais, Aimee Hector and Rebecca Mermelstein, Assistant United States Attorneys, of counsel, that:

"Defendant's Exhibits DX 104 to 1089, DX 201 to 204, DX 207, DX 308, DX 318 to 327, DX 330 to 331, DX 335 to 336, DX 339 to 340, DX 801, DX 803 to 805, DX 1140, 1142 to 1144, DX 1000, DX 1001A, 1001B, 1001E, and 1001L, and DX 1126 to 1128, DX 1130 to 1131, and DX 1134 are true and correct copies of records that were created, kept and maintained in the ordinary course of business of Gerova Financial Group, and were created by persons with knowledge of, or created from information transmitted by persons with knowledge of, the information shown, and were created at or near the time the information became available.

1           "2. Defendant's Exhibit 1700 to 1702 are true and  
2 accurate copies of e-mails.

3           "3. Defendant's Exhibits DX 900 to 902 are true and  
4 correct copies of records that were created, kept and  
5 maintained in the ordinary course of business of Sterling Trust  
6 Cayman Ltd. and Societe Generale (Soc-Gen), and were created by  
7 persons with knowledge of, or created from information  
8 transmitted by persons with knowledge of, the information  
9 shown, and were created at or near the time the information  
10 became available.

11           "4. Defendant's Exhibits DX 111, DX 112, and DX 114  
12 are true and correct copies of public records and stock  
13 certificates that were created, kept and maintained in the  
14 ordinary course of business, and were created by persons with  
15 knowledge of, or created from information transmitted by  
16 persons with knowledge of, the information shown, and were  
17 created at or near the time the information became available.

18           "5. Defendant's Exhibit DX 113 is a true and correct  
19 copy of records that were created, kept and maintained in the  
20 ordinary course of business of the New York Stock Exchange, and  
21 were created by persons with knowledge of the information  
22 shown, and were created at or near the time the information  
23 became available.

24           "It is further stipulated by and among the parties  
25 that this stipulation and the defense exhibits set forth herein

are admissible as defense exhibits at trial."

It is dated September 11, 2016, and signed by the parties.

I offer the exhibits and the stipulation into evidence.

MR. BLAIS: No objection.

THE COURT: Received.

(Defendant's Exhibits 104 to 1089, 201 to 204, 207, 308, 318 to 327, 330 to 331, 335 to 336, 339 to 340, 801, 803 to 805, 1140, 1142 to 1144, 1000, 1001A, 1001B, 1001E, and 1001L, and 1126 to 1128, 1130 to 1131, and 1134 received in evidence)

(Defendant's Exhibit 1700 to 1702, 900 to 902, 111, 112, 113, 114 and 1302 received in evidence)

MS. HARRIS: The defense calls Michael Mullings.

MICHAEL MULLINGS,

called as a witness by the defendant,

having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

THE DEPUTY CLERK: State your name and spell your full name for the record, please.

THE WITNESS: Michael Mullings, M-I-C-H-A-E-L, M-U-L-L-I-N-G-S.

THE COURT: You may inquire.

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MS. HARRIS:

1 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Mullings.

2 A. Good afternoon.

3 Q. Can you tell me where you work?

4 A. Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

5 Q. What is your position there?

6 A. I am currently the chief compliance officer and corporate  
7 secretary.

8 Q. How long have you worked at Continental?

9 A. Over 20 years.

10 Q. Can you tell me a little bit of your educational background  
11 after high school?

12 A. I have a master's degree from the New Jersey Institute of  
13 Technology. And I have a bachelor's degree from the University  
14 of West Indies.

15 Q. Can you tell the jury briefly how a stock transfer company  
16 like Continental works?

17 A. A stock transfer company has many roles. Mainly, what we  
18 do is we keep the records of all the shareholders of the  
19 company, the registered shareholders. There are other  
20 functions, which includes the issuance of shares on the  
21 authorization of a company officer or board resolutions, or we  
22 are involved in the transfer of securities, meaning the shares  
23 are held by John Smith and it needs to be transferred to Mary  
24 Smith, the certificate needs to be presented to us for  
25 cancellation and we will reissue a new certificate.

1 Q. Is the information maintained by Continental available to  
2 the companies that use Continental --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- for that purpose?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Is Continental a source of information for those company  
7 representatives?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Is there a time of year when Continental gets more frequent  
10 requests for information from company representatives?

11 A. Usually most public companies have public filings. So they  
12 will request certain information quarterly or at the fiscal  
13 year end.

14 Q. So they request information usually in connection with  
15 filings that they have to make?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. I want to show you what has been in evidence as Government  
18 Exhibit 508.

19 Hopefully in a minute or a few seconds it will pop up  
20 on your screen. If it doesn't, I have a paper copy.

21 What is this document?

22 A. It's a controls for the company which shows changes in the  
23 outstanding shares.

24 Q. How regularly is this kind of document updated by  
25 Continental?

1 A. Every time that there is a change. So if there is an  
2 issuance or a cancellation, anywhere there is a change an entry  
3 is made.

4 Q. Now, I would like to show you what is in evidence as  
5 Defense Exhibit 301.

6 Do you recognize this form of document?

7 A. Yes. This is a registered shareholders list.

8 Q. Is this a document maintained by Continental?

9 A. It's generated by Continental.

10 Q. Created and maintained by Continental?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. You said the names on the list are registered shareholders,  
13 correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. Drawing your attention to, I think it's the ninth line  
16 down, Cede & Co.

17 A. It's actually Cede & Co.

18 Q. Can you explain what that entry means?

19 A. Cede & Co. is the nominee name for Depository Trust  
20 Company, and those are street-held shares, meaning shares held  
21 on behalf of beneficial holders by brokers and banks.

22 Q. So that row there, Cede & Co. (Fast), collects the number  
23 of shares held, but held in street name, correct?

24 A. Correct. The shareholders are not listed on our records.  
25 As a transfer agent, we have no access to brokerage accounts,

1 and so we do not know who the actual owners of the stock is.

2 This account just represents those shareholders.

3 Q. Drawing your attention to the column marked "issued" all  
4 the way over to the right, can you indicate or explain to the  
5 jury what "COM" means under issued?

6 A. It's just an abbreviation for common stock that we  
7 generally use.

8 MS. HARRIS: Mr. Pollock, if you could show the bottom  
9 of the document.

10 Q. Towards the tomorrow there are other abbreviations. Do you  
11 see the "WTS"?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Can you explain what that means?

14 A. That's an abbreviation for warrants.

15 Q. Finally, there is one entry with the indicator of "unit"?

16 A. That's what it is, a unit.

17 Q. Can you explain to the jury what a unit is?

18 A. A unit is a security that generally has a component  
19 feature; it comprises of common stock and warrants. So a  
20 shareholder of a unit will be able to separate the units, if  
21 they choose, into common shares and warrants, and there is  
22 usually a separate.

23 Q. We talked about how quickly Continental updates the common  
24 master sheet in Government Exhibit 508. Whenever a share  
25 issuance is made by Continental, is this chart, Defense Exhibit

1 301, is that chart also updated?

2 A. Well, it will change -- the next day, if this report was  
3 run again, then you will see the change in it, yes.

4 Q. So just to be clear, within a day of issuing the shares,  
5 the information is updated?

6 A. Yes. Whenever transactions are done during the day, there  
7 is a batch job that's done overnight and it updates. It will  
8 update the accounts to generate this list.

9 Q. Are you familiar with a company by the name of Gerova?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Was Gerova a client of Continental's in 2010?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So this information that we are looking at on Defense Trial  
14 Exhibit 301 is, in fact, the registered shareholders list for  
15 Gerova as of May 15, 2010, is that right?

16 A. That is correct.

17 Q. As you discussed previously, this chart is also a chart  
18 that's available to company representatives upon request,  
19 correct?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. Now, can you tell the total number of restricted shares  
22 from looking at this chart?

23 A. Not from this list, no.

24 Q. Does Continental have other records that keep track of the  
25 total number of restricted shares?



1 A. You can generate reports that reflect restricted numbers,  
2 yes.

3 Q. Now, I would like to take a look at Government Exhibit 500.

4 MS. HARRIS: I'm sorry. If you could just keep up  
5 Defense Exhibit 301 for a minute.

6 Q. Just looking again at the Cede & Co. entry on the ninth  
7 line, it shows, if you run your hand all the way over to the  
8 right, it shows the total number of shares held in street name  
9 and it says 282,917, correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 MS. HARRIS: Now, if we can take a look at Government  
12 Exhibit 500.

13 If you can turn to the first page after the e-mail.

14 Q. This was a letter received by Continental, correct, in May  
15 of 2010?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Requesting the issuance of 5,333,333 shares?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Now, I would like to look at Defense Exhibit 304.

20 Taking a look at line 9 again -- I think it's line 9,  
21 Cede & Co. (Fast) -- withdrawn.

22 This is the Gerova Financial Group's registered  
23 shareholders list as of May 27, 2010, correct?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Taking a look at Cede & Co., the ninth line down, and

1 running your hand all the way to the right-hand column, it now  
2 lists 5,617,050 shares, correct?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Is it fair to assume that that reflects the share issuance  
5 that we just looked at in the May 26 letter regarding 5,333,333  
6 shares?

7 A. Yes, that makes sense, yes.

8 Q. This report of May 27, this report would also have been  
9 available to any representatives from Gerova, correct?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. Before I leave this topic, if we could just skip back to  
12 Government Exhibit 500.

13 MS. HARRIS: May I have one moment?

14 THE COURT: Yes.

15 Q. So just going back to the letter, we talked about the  
16 issuance of shares, but looking at the bottom of the letter, it  
17 indicates to whom the shares should be delivered, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And it includes the name of Ymer Shahini?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. So though it's delivered to a brokerage house, the name is  
22 contained in this letter, is that right?

23 A. The account name is identified, yes.

24 Q. And this letter is also maintained in the files of  
25 Continental, correct?

1 A. That is correct.

2 Q. And this letter and any related documents would also be  
3 available to a company representative, correct?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Thank you.

6 Now, I would like to take a look at Defense Exhibit  
7 323.

8 Starting on the third page -- it's a four-page  
9 document.

10 MS. HARRIS: If I may, your Honor, approach with a  
11 paper copy for the witness?

12 THE COURT: That will be fine. Thank you.

13 Q. Beginning at the bottom of page 3 -- in fact, the entire  
14 content of page 3, that reflects correspondence between  
15 individuals at Continental and an individual at Gerova, is that  
16 correct?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. The information requested, I believe in the middle of page  
19 3, is the number of shareholders, correct?

20 You see the middle of the page?

21 A. Yes. Correct.

22 Q. And that's dated July 14, 2010, correct?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. Then turning to page 2, you see a woman by the name of  
25 Vivina Mendez e-mails Mr. Hlavsa information concerning common

1 holders, new unit holders, warrant holders and new warrant  
2 holders.

3 Is this kind of correspondence typical of the kind of  
4 request that Continental receives from company representatives?

5 A. We get various requests and this is consistent with that.

6 Q. Then Mr. Hlavsa asked for the number of shares, not  
7 shareholders, and whether he can get the number that are  
8 restricted.

9 That's information that Continental has as well,  
10 correct?

11 A. Yes. We could provide that report, yes.

12 Q. Then on page 1, you see an e-mail at the bottom of the page  
13 from Vivina Mendez to Mr. Hlavsa, and she provides the issued  
14 and outstanding shares. And then she offers to run a report to  
15 ascertain the number of restricted shares.

16 Is that the kind of report you were discussing earlier  
17 where Continental can identify the number of restricted shares?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Then if you could just read the e-mail at the top where it  
20 begins "Vivina"?

21 A. It says, "Thank you. Please run the report and also can I  
22 have the shareholder listing for each month in 2010? That way  
23 I can see the shares as they are issued and canceled."

24 Q. That's from Michael Hlavsa, correct?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. So is running the reports per month also something that  
2 Continental can do for a company representative?

3 A. If requested, yes.

4 Q. Now I am going to show you Defendant's Exhibit 348.

5 MR. TREMONTE: Again, may I approach, your Honor?  
6 It's a multipage document.

7 THE COURT: You may.

8 Q. If you could turn to the second page.

9 Now, does Continental have a secure messaging or  
10 communication system set up for its customers or its clients?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. So are some of the reports that we have been talking about  
13 delivered through that secured communication system?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And this e-mail, these e-mail correspondence that you see  
16 reflected on page 5, is it your understanding that some of  
17 these e-mails are communicated through the secured client  
18 communication system?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Now, can you just read the e-mail at the top that's from  
21 Nancy Gavilanes to m.hlavsa@gerova.com?

22 A. The second page?

23 Q. Strangely, there is a page 5 at the bottom, but the second  
24 page of the exhibit.

25 A. It says, "Attached are the shareholders list from April to

1 June. Please advise as of what date do you need the restricted  
2 list and are we sending both reports on a monthly basis or only  
3 the shareholders list?"

4 Q. That e-mail indicates there are three attachments?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. That e-mail that you just read, it indicates in the  
7 attachments line that there are three Excel spreadsheets  
8 attached, correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Then turning to the next page of the exhibit, that's one of  
11 the spreadsheets that was attached, correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. This is one of the shareholder lists of the kind that  
14 Continental maintains, correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And it has the written date 4/30/10 at the bottom?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Do you have it?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Then turning to the next page, that's the second  
21 spreadsheet that was attached to that e-mail, correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And this is the shareholder report as of May 31, 2010,  
24 correct?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. Again, looking at the line --

2 MS. HARRIS: Can we blow this up a little bit, Mr.  
3 Pollock? Thank you.

4 Q. Looking at the line again Cede & Co. (Fast), and moving all  
5 the way over to the right, it shows the number of shares held  
6 in street name, correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And that's 5,617,050?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. Then, finally, turning to the next page, that's the third  
11 spreadsheet that was attached to that e-mail to Mr. Hlavsa,  
12 correct?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. That's the shareholder list as of June 30, 2010?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. Thank you. I am going to turn our attention now to Defense  
17 Exhibit 324.

18 MS. HARRIS: Again, if I may approach, your Honor?

19 THE COURT: You may.

20 Q. Drawing your attention to the middle of page 1, you see  
21 there is an e-mail again from Vivina Mendez to Michael Hlavsa  
22 and it's cc'd to Alexandra Albrecht?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And in that e-mail she says, "We do not have anyone set up  
25 to receive the month end reports for Gerova. However, I will

1 inform the department who handles these requests to include you  
2 as the receiver of the reports going forward."

3 Let me ask you, does Continental sometimes send  
4 regular month end reports to some companies who request it?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Are all of the reports that Continental maintains available  
7 to be sent to a company on a regular basis?

8 A. They are available, but they usually request whatever it is  
9 they want.

10 Q. Is it possible for a company to ask for automatic receipt  
11 of month end reports?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. That would be the shareholder list that we just looked at?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Thank you.

16 MS. HARRIS: One moment, Judge.

17 Your Honor, just so the record is clear, I believe  
18 Defense Exhibit 348 may not have been covered by the  
19 stipulation. It was provided to the government in advance. I  
20 now offer it to the extent it wasn't officially offered by  
21 stipulation.

22 THE COURT: Any objection?

23 MS. HECTOR: Your Honor, may I just locate it?

24 THE COURT: You may.

25 MS. HECTOR: That's fine. No objection.



1 THE COURT: Received.

2 (Defendant's Exhibit 348 received in evidence)

3 Q. Turning your attention, if I could, to Defense Exhibit 300.

4 MS. HARRIS: Again, your Honor, just for the witness's  
5 convenience, I am going to hand him a paper copy.

6 Q. Mr. Mullings, do you recognize this document?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. It's from the files of Continental?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Can you explain for the jury what this document is?

11 A. It's a resolution that provides the appointment of  
12 Continental Stock Transfer to act as transfer agent and  
13 registrar for the issuant.

14 Q. You understand this to be the terms under which Continental  
15 is appointed to be the transfer agent?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. These are essentially the terms by which Continental must  
18 abide by contractually with the company?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. If you could look at the paragraph that's Roman numeral 2?

21 A. OK.

22 Q. Could you just read that paragraph from the beginning,  
23 please?

24 A. "That the transfer agent and registrar be and hereby is  
25 authorized to issue, register, and countersign certificates of

1 said stock of this corporation in such names and for such  
 2 numbers of shares up to the full amount of such stock which is  
 3 authorized but unissued and to deliver such certificates and/or  
 4 book entry positions as may be directed by resolution of the  
 5 board of directors or by written order of the president or a  
 6 vice president and secretary or assistant secretary or  
 7 treasurer and an opinion of counsel in form and substance  
 8 satisfactory to it and such other documentation as it may  
 9 require."

10 Q. Just to break this down a little bit, with the phrase  
 11 beginning by "as may be directed by resolution of the board of  
 12 directors," is this the instruction as to who can issue  
 13 instructions with respect to share issuances to Continental?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Do you understand this language to authorize such issuance  
 16 by either a resolution of the board of directors or a written  
 17 order of the president?

18 A. Written order of the president or a vice president and  
 19 secretary and assistant secretary, yes.

20 Q. So there are actually four different options as to how  
 21 share issuances can be authorized?

22 A. I'm not sure I understand the question.

23 Q. It could be authorized by a resolution of the board of  
 24 directors?

25 A. Right.

1 Q. Or a written order of the president?

2 A. Written order of any authorized officer. And that includes  
3 the president or a vice president and secretary and treasurer.

4 Q. But either-or is sufficient?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. If you could turn to page 3 of that document.

7 There is a signature at the bottom there and that's  
8 over the line for secretary, correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 (Continued on next page)

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1 BY MS. HARRIS:

2 Q. I don't know if you can recognize that signature. Do you  
3 recognize that signature or can you read it?

4 A. I assume it's Michael Hlavsa, however you pronounce his  
5 name.

6 Q. The rest of the document might be able to help us out. If  
7 we turn to page --

8 A. I recognize him as the secretary, so I assume that's him.

9 Q. -- page 6 of the document, please.

10 A. It looks likes the same signature, yes.

11 Q. We're waiting for the computer to catch up with your paper  
12 copy.

13 A. I'm sorry.

14 Q. Well, first, that page there -- right. You see Michael  
15 Hlavsa's signature next to him name, correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. On the page right before that, see a signature next to the  
18 name of Gary Hirst?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Then turning back to page 1. Do you see this is a  
21 resolution for the board of directors of the Asia Special  
22 Situation Acquisition Corp., right?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Do you have an understanding as to the relationship between  
25 ASSAC and Geroval?

1 A. ASSAC was the original company that existed as a SPAC, a  
2 special purpose acquisition corporation, that went under a  
3 merger and changed their name to Gerova Financial.

4 Q. Are you aware of any subsequent or new set of instructions  
5 to Continental from the Gerova entity?

6 A. I'm not aware of one, no.

7 Q. You reviewed the Gerova files in the possession of  
8 Continental before testifying here today, correct?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Is it your understanding that share issuances were issued  
11 for Gerova Corporation pursuant to the company resolution of  
12 the ASSAC that we just looked at, Defendant's Exhibit 300?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Thank you.

15 MS. HARRIS: I'd like to take a look at Defendant's  
16 Exhibit 301.

17 Q. We've looked at this before, but this time I just want to  
18 draw your attention to a few lines below CEDE & Co. You see  
19 the name Gary Hirst?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Moving all the way over to the right, you see the number of  
22 shares issued under his name?

23 A. I can't see the right column. It's 125.

24 Q. I'd be happy to bring you a paper copy if that helps.

25 A. No, I can see now.

1 Q. Okay. And it's 125,000, correct?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. Again, this is the shareholders list as of May 15th, 2010,  
4 correct?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Also, just looking at the top line of the shareholders  
7 list, it has, under "name", Allius Ltd. The first line of  
8 "address" says "Attention Gary Hirst".

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Do you understand what that means if a shareholder's name  
11 is attention to somebody else?

12 A. Well, the shareholder is listed in the first column, and  
13 the attention is just usually there if it's a corporation --  
14 well, "usually" is probably the wrong word -- but on occasion,  
15 an individual name will be put there so if there's a mailing,  
16 it goes to that particular individual. That's usually  
17 requested when the shares are issued.

18 Q. The number of shares held in that corporate entity is  
19 500,000 as of 5/15/2010, correct?

20 A. Correct.

21 MS. HARRIS: Your Honor, I offer Defendant's Exhibit  
22 345 and 346. It wasn't ready in time for the stipulation, but  
23 I believe there's no objection.

24 MS. HECTOR: No objection.

25 THE COURT: Received.

(Defendant's Exhibits 345 and 346 received in evidence)

MS. HARRIS: If I could approach and have these documents put in front of the witness?

THE COURT: You may.

BY MS. HARRIS:

Q. If you could take a moment just to look at the email and the attached letter that's Defendant's Exhibit 345.

A. Okay.

Q. Is this a letter correspondence received by Continental?

A. Yes.

Q. Can you explain, from looking at the email, what the communication concerns?

A. I assume that a certificate was presented in the name of Allius Ltd. for transfer to Zasis, LLC and Noble Investment Fund Ltd., and that an opinion of counsel is requested because the shares were restricted. And that's what the email communication is providing, that legal opinion.

Q. Let's take a look at Defendant's Exhibit 346. You have multiple copies of it, but it's only one page.

A. Okay.

Q. Does that show the splitting up the Allius shares between Zasis, LLC and Noble Investment Fund Ltd.?

A. Yes.

Q. What is this form of document, Exhibit 346?

1 A. It's called a daily transfer journal. What it is is it's  
2 an activity report on every transaction that occurs, in this  
3 case for Gerova on October 13th, 2010.

4 Q. Thank you. You can put the document down.

5 Did there come a time when there was a reverse stock  
6 split for Gerova?

7 A. Yes. It was declared in November of 2010, I believe. It  
8 became effective in November, 2010.

9 Q. Do you remember what the stock split was?

10 A. It was one for five.

11 Q. One for five. Can you just explain what that means to the  
12 jury briefly, a stock split, a reverse stock split?

13 A. In general, it's what we call a corporate action. In  
14 general, issuers will declare a stock split in order to improve  
15 the price of the stock. That's essentially what the reason is.

16 So what happens is, on the effective date of the  
17 stock, the price will jump by whatever that rate is. So if it  
18 was \$1 a share on November 10th, and the effective date was  
19 November 11th, on that date the stock price would be corrected  
20 on the market to \$5.

21 Q. So if you're a shareholder on the day of a reverse stock  
22 split, the price per share will go up, but your number of  
23 shares will go down?

24 A. Right. The one for five means the number of shares at face  
25 value number of shares that you hold will be reduced by that



1 rate. So if you had 100 shares, and it was a one for five  
2 split, it would reduce to 20 shares. But because the price  
3 also increased five for one, the overall value of the shares  
4 would remain the same.

5 Q. Thank you.

6 Now I'd like to take a look at Defendant's Exhibit 302  
7 already in evidence. This is a Gerova registered shareholder  
8 list as of August 29th, 2016, correct?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. First of all, let me ask you. This is a two-page document.

11 MS. HARRIS: Your Honor, if I may approach and hand up  
12 a paper copy?

13 THE COURT: Yes.

14 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15 Q. Turning your attention to page 2, over in the right-hand  
16 column -- second to last right-hand column before the number of  
17 shares, you see on page 2 it has the indicator "new", n-e-w?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Could you explain to the jury what that means?

20 A. Whenever there's a reverse split, Continental creates a new  
21 issue to segregate what we call the on exchange presplit shares  
22 subject to the one for five split in this case and shares that  
23 have already underwent the one for five split. So all of the  
24 shareholders listed under the "new" category would have been  
25 shares that would have been -- it would have gone through the

1 one for five split.

2 THE COURT: That's an internal designation; is that  
3 right?

4 THE WITNESS: That's correct.

5 THE COURT: Thank you.

6 Q. So three lines down, or I guess it's four lines  
7 technically, you see the row with Gary Hirst's name?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Your records show that as of August 29, 2016, he had 25,000  
10 shares of new post reverse split shares, correct?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. And that's one-fifth of the 125,000 number that we saw as  
13 of May 15, 2010, correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. So same number of shares since May, 2010.

16 A. It's the post split equivalent of those shares, yes. The  
17 same shares.

18 Q. Looking down at the line where it says "Noble Investment  
19 Fund Ltd."

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. The address now for Noble is an address in Switzerland,  
22 correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Again, Noble Investment Fund has 50,000 new or post split  
25 shares, correct?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. And that's one-fifth of 250,000, correct?

3 A. Right.

4 Q. Finally, looking at the bottom of the list, we see Zasis,  
5 LLC?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And Zasis has 50,000 of the new post reverse split shares,  
8 correct?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Again, one-fifth of 250,000.

11 A. Correct.

12 MS. HARRIS: You can take down that exhibit. I'd like  
13 to take a look at Defendant's Exhibit 303, please, already in  
14 evidence.

15 Your Honor, if I may approach with my last paper  
16 exhibit to hand to Mr. Mullings?

17 THE COURT: Yes.

18 Q. Do you see Defendant's Exhibit 303?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. That's a letter from Continental, correct, to Dr. Gary  
21 Hirst?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. It appears to enclose stock certificates, correct?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Is it Continental's practice to also issue stock

certificates to shareholders upon request?

A. Yes.

Q. This is a letter sent by your company; is that right?

A. That's correct.

Q. Take a look at Defendant's Exhibit 111. This, in fact, is the stock certificate referenced in the letter for Zasis, LLC for 50,000 shares, correct?

A. Correct.

Q. Then turning to Defendant's Exhibit 112. That is a stock certificate in the name of Gary Hirst for 25,000 shares, correct?

A. Correct.

MS. HARRIS: If I could have a moment, your Honor?

THE COURT: You may.

(Pause)

MS. HARRIS: No further questions. Thank you.

THE COURT: You may cross examine.

MS. HECTOR: Thank you, your Honor.

CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MS. HECTOR:

Q. Mr. Mullings, if we could just start by picking up exactly where we just left off with those two stock certificates you were looking at. That's Defendant's Exhibit 111 and 112.

MS. HECTOR: I'll just open up this ELMO for a second. Ms. Sheinwald, could we toggle to the ELMO?

1 Q. Mr. Mullings, is this what you were just looking at, the  
2 stock exhibit, Defendant's Exhibit 111, to Zasis?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Could you just look at the second page, which appears to  
5 just be a photocopy of the back of that document? I can just  
6 zoom in. Is this indication at the bottom what's referred to  
7 as a restrictive legend on this stock certificate?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Let me just put up on the ELMO 112.

10 THE COURT: Could you put that back up, please, for  
11 one moment?

12 MS. HARRIS: I'm sorry.

13 THE COURT: Thank you.

14 Q. Let me just put on the ELMO 112, which we just looked at,  
15 which was the stock certificate to Gary T. Hirst. While we're  
16 on this, could I just focus your attention, Mr. Mullings, on  
17 the address provided for Mr. Hirst? Could you read that for  
18 us?

19 A. It's 1515 International Parkway, Suite 2031, Lake Mary,  
20 Florida, 32746.

21 Q. Again, turning to the photocopy of the back page, is this  
22 certificate also labeled with what's referred to as a  
23 restrictive legend?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Your understanding of a restrictive legend, correct, is

1 that it's restricted from sale, from free trading?

2 A. It's restricted from transfer of any kind without  
3 authorization, which is either the shares being registered or  
4 there's an available exemption under the Securities Act. So  
5 it's not free to trade it, or freely transferable.

6 MS. HECTOR: Ms. Sheinwald, could we pull up  
7 Defendant's Exhibit 300?

8 Q. Do you see that on your screen, Mr. Mullings?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Mr. Mullings, you were asked on direct about this document.  
11 This is essentially the contract, right, between Continental  
12 and, its indicated, Asia Special Situation Acquisition Corp.,  
13 right?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Ms. Harris focused you in on this second paragraph here.

16 MS. HECTOR: Ms. Sheinwald, could we pull that up one  
17 more time, II? Could we pull it out so that it -- yes. Thank  
18 you.

19 Q. Mr. Mullings, fair to say that what this paragraph  
20 indicates is who at Asia Special Situation Acquisition Corp. is  
21 authorized to direct you, Continental, to issue shares, right?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Just to be clear, this has nothing to do with the bylaws of  
24 the corporation, Asia Special Situation Acquisition Corp.,  
25 right?

1 A. No.

2 THE COURT: I'm sorry?

3 MS. HARRIS: Objection, your Honor, foundation.

4 THE COURT: Overruled.

5 If you know. Do you know the answer to the question?

6 THE WITNESS: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Okay, thank you.

8 Q. This is purely who is authorized under this contract to  
9 give a direction to you, Continental, to cause the issuance of  
10 shares, correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And we focus in on this paragraph II, to see who does it  
13 say can direct the issuance of shares? I think that is  
14 explained in the third line of this, so let's just focus in on  
15 that. "may be directed by resolution of the board of  
16 directors." So that's one way, right?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Now let's talk about the second way. "Or by written order  
19 of the president." That's the second way, right?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. So we're back to "written order of a vice president, and  
22 secretary, or assistant secretary, or treasurer." So am I  
23 correct that a third way is written order by a vice president,  
24 and, either secretary, assistant secretary, or treasurer; is  
25 that right?

1 A. It can be interpreted that way, yes.

2 Q. Now let's look at page 3 of this document.

3 MS. HECTOR: Could we focus in on that section

4 under D? Thank you.

5 Q. One way was the resolution of the directors. We don't have  
6 the board of directors listed here, right?

7 A. No.

8 Q. The other is by the president. Who is the president listed  
9 here?

10 A. That would be Gary Hirst.

11 Q. So Gary Hirst is authorized under this contract to cause  
12 Continental to issue shares, right?

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. What is his address that we see here?

15 A. 1515 International Parkway, Suite 2031, Lake Mary, Florida,  
16 32746.

17 MS. HECTOR: We can take that down, Ms. Sheinwald.

18 Thank you. Can we pull up Defendant's Exhibit 304? That's not  
19 here. I'll just pull it up on the ELMO. I think you may have  
20 it up there.

21 THE WITNESS: 304 you said?

22 Q. Yes. So Mr. Mullings, this is one of the shareholders  
23 lists we looked at during your direct testimony.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Just to be clear, am I correct that Continental has the



1 information that is reflected in a document like this, but this  
2 kind of document isn't created unless it's requested; is that  
3 right?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. Now, there is a line on this document called CEDE & Co.,  
6 right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Am I correct that CEDE & Co., that line on this document,  
9 encompasses potentially multiple shareholders, right?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. So if John Smith, for instance, holds shares of Gerova in a  
12 brokerage account at Merrill Lynch, he doesn't appear on this  
13 list as John Smith, he appears on this list under the CEDE  
14 number?

15 A. He's a part of that number, yes.

16 Q. Looking at this document, you can't tell who the particular  
17 shareholders are who make up that number, right?

18 A. No. We have no access to that information.

19 Q. In fact, Continental doesn't even maintain information  
20 about who makes up that CEDE & Co. number, right?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. In fact, isn't it true that even if Continental wanted to  
23 get that information, it might not be able to get all of that  
24 information?

25 A. We couldn't, no.

1 Q. So if someone were to request that information from  
2 Continental, you don't even have it.

3 A. No. We have no access to that.

4 Q. Ms. Harris asked you questions about whether it's possible  
5 for a company to get regular monthly shareholder reports from  
6 you. Do you remember that?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Isn't it true that it's, frankly, pretty rare for a company  
9 to receive monthly shareholder reports from you like that.

10 A. I wouldn't use the word "rare", but it's not the norm.

11 Q. Isn't it true that only about 25 percent of your client  
12 companies receive monthly shareholder reports?

13 A. Approximately. Maybe lower than that. Approximately, yes.

14 MS. HECTOR: Ms. Sheinwald, could we pull up  
15 Government's Exhibit 200 -- sorry -- 500? Could we look at  
16 page 2 of that document?

17 THE COURT: I think the machine is tired and is  
18 telling us that we should take our mid-afternoon break, so  
19 that's what I propose we do. We'll be back in action in 10  
20 minutes.

21 (Recess)

22 THE COURT: You may continue.

23 MS. HECTOR: Thank you, your Honor.

24 BY MS. HECTOR:

25 Q. Good afternoon again, Mr. Mullings.

1           So we have up on the screen what is in evidence as  
2 Government's Exhibit 500, page 2. And Mr. Mullings, if you  
3 could just take a look for a second at this letter to  
4 familiarize yourself with it again.

5 A. Okay.

6 Q. Sometimes Continental requires that its client company  
7 provide an attorney opinion letter in connection with an  
8 issuance, correct?

9 A. We always require it.

10 Q. So you always require that, in addition to the letter,  
11 there is some sort of attorney opinion letter also provided,  
12 correct?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. In addition to the information that a company provides to  
15 Continental about who can cause share issuances, do companies  
16 also typically provide Continental with a list of company  
17 counsel from whom you can accept attorney opinion letters?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. If a company wants Continental to rely on an opinion letter  
20 that is not from one of the attorneys on that list, can they  
21 request for Continental to rely on that other attorney's  
22 letter?

23 A. Yes.

24           MS. HECTOR: Can we focus in on the third paragraph of  
25 this letter?

1 Q. Could you read that to us?

2 A. It says, "Please also consider this authorization to rely  
3 on the attached legal opinion provided by Barry Feiner, Esq. in  
4 connection with the free transferability of the shares which  
5 should be delivered without restriction."

6 Q. So by this paragraph, is it your understanding that  
7 Mr. Hirst is asking Continental to rely on this other  
8 attorney's opinion, Barry Feiner, in connection with this stock  
9 issuance?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. If we just turn to two more pages in this document. Is  
12 this a letter to Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company  
13 from the attorney that was referenced in the letter from Gary  
14 Hirst, meaning attorney Barry Feiner, Esquire?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Just looking at the first paragraph, is this opinion letter  
17 concerning shares issued to Ymer Shahini?

18 A. Yes.

19 MS. HECTOR: That is all I have. Thank you, your  
20 Honor.

21 THE COURT: Any redirect?

22 MS. HARRIS: Just one moment, your Honor. Thank you.

23 (Pause)

24 MS. HARRIS: Just two questions, Mr. Mullings. Might  
25 be three. I apologize.

1 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

2 BY MS. HARRIS:

3 Q. If we could take a look at Government's Exhibit 500. It  
4 was just up on the screen.

5 Looking again at this letter, I think Ms. Hector was  
6 asking you about whether or not it was possible for Continental  
7 to figure out the individual shareholders who held the shares  
8 in street name under the CEDE & Co. list, correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. I understand your testimony was that it's impossible for  
11 Continental to determine who holds the shares in the street  
12 name, correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. But just so we're clear, this information -- this letter  
15 that contains Ymer Shahini's name was maintained and available  
16 to company representatives, correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So even though you can't necessarily know everyone who has  
19 the shares in CEDE & Co., if a company representative had a  
20 question about a specific issuance, or any issuance, this  
21 document would be available to them, correct?

22 A. Correct.

23 MS. HARRIS: Nothing further, Judge.

24 THE COURT: You may step down. Thank you, sir.

25 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

1 THE COURT: You may call your next witness.

2 MR. BIALE: Thank you, your Honor. The defense calls  
3 Jan Golaszewski.

4 JAN GOLASZEWSKI,  
5 called as a witness by the Defendant,  
6 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

7 THE DEPUTY CLERK: State your full name and spell your  
8 full name for the record, please.

9 THE WITNESS: My name is Jan Golaszewski. J-a-n,  
10 G-o-l-a-s-z-e-w-s-k-i.

11 THE COURT: You may inquire.

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. BIALE:

14 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Golaszewski.

15 A. Good afternoon.

16 Q. Where do you work?

17 A. I work at Carey Olsen, which is a law firm -- in their  
18 office in Grand Cayman in the Cayman Islands.

19 Q. What's your position there?

20 A. I'm a partner of the firm, and I'm head of the litigation  
21 and insolvency departments in the Cayman Islands office.

22 Q. Can you just briefly explain for the jury, what is  
23 litigation insolvency?

24 A. Of course. So litigation is when companies or individuals  
25 sue each other in the Cayman Islands court. Insolvency is when

1 the companies get into financial difficulties and there's  
2 either restructuring or the companies are liquidated and their  
3 assets are sold off.

4 Q. This may be somewhat of a repeat, but what's your general  
5 area of practice?

6 A. So it's, as I say, litigation insolvency involving Cayman  
7 Islands companies and in the Cayman Islands courts.

8 Q. Can you give us a brief summary of your educational  
9 background?

10 A. Yes. I was born and brought up in London. Went to  
11 secondary school in London, and then I went to Oxford  
12 University where I studied law. I had obtained a First Class  
13 degree in law at Oxford University in England. I then studied  
14 a legal practice course in Nottingham. I then started working  
15 with Freshfields, which is one of the four biggest English law  
16 firms, where I did my training contract. I worked with  
17 Freshfields in London and in Hong Kong, and I moved to the  
18 Cayman Islands in 2008.

19 Q. How long have you been working at Carey Olsen?

20 A. I've been working at Carey Olsen two years in the Cayman  
21 Islands. Previous to that, I worked for a law firm called  
22 Maples and Calder in the Cayman Islands.

23 Q. How long have you been a partner of the firm?

24 A. I've been a partner for two and a half years.

25 Q. At Carey Olsen, what are some of the representative matters

1 that you've handled?

2 A. So I am currently acting for a company who is suing its  
3 former directors for fraud. I'm acting for investors in a  
4 hedge fund who are trying to get their money out of the hedge  
5 fund. I'm acting for liquidators suing their former auditors  
6 for auditor negligence. That's a general review of the  
7 caseload I've got at the moment.

8 Q. Have you published any articles or books?

9 A. No books, but I regularly publish articles in journals,  
10 mainly to do with insolvency. There's one called Insol,  
11 I-n-s-o-l, and also some of the offshore legal publications.

12 Q. Have you ever testified in a trial before?

13 A. I haven't testified and given oral evidence at a trial  
14 before, but I have acted as an expert witness in Cayman Islands  
15 law in other matters.

16 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, as I  
17 understand it, this witness is not being proffered as an expert  
18 on Cayman Islands law, and for that reason will not be opining  
19 on any issue of Cayman Islands law. Is that correct?

20 MR. BIALE: That's correct, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.

22 Q. Are you being paid for your testimony here?

23 A. My law firm is being paid, yes.

24 Q. Who is paying your law firm?

25 A. The defense.



1 Q. And how much have you been paid so far?

2 A. My firm was paid a \$10,000 retainer.

3 Q. How much work have you done up to this point?

4 A. I think we've done around \$20,000 worth of work.

5 Q. Does your compensation depend in any way on the outcome of  
6 this case?

7 A. It does not.

8 Q. Do you know anything about the charges or the underlying  
9 conduct in this case?

10 A. I've read the indictment and I've read a number of the  
11 corporate documents that have been shown to me.

12 Q. We're going to get to some of those documents, but I just  
13 first want to ask you a few general questions about  
14 corporations in the Cayman Islands.

15 How are Cayman Islands corporations structured?

16 A. It's normally either a company or a partnership.

17 Q. What's a company?

18 A. So a company has got shareholders which own the company,  
19 and they own shares in the company, and then there are also  
20 directors who are the essentially the management of the  
21 company.

22 Q. And do those companies generally have officers?

23 A. Yes. They would have executive officers like secretaries,  
24 or the company secretary or directors as an officer.

25 Q. What about a CEO or chief executive officer?

1 A. One of the directors could be assigned as a chief executive  
2 officer. The sort of head of the directors is the chairman.  
3 That's the term that we would use in the Cayman Islands.

4 Q. What about a CFO, a chief financial officer?

5 A. Yes. You could have a chief financial officer who could be  
6 a director or may not be a director, it very much depends.

7 Q. What does the chief financial officer typically do?

8 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, your Honor.

9 THE COURT: I'm going to allow it. Go ahead.

10 THE WITNESS: Chief financial officer is in charge of  
11 the finances of the company, and that would be their designated  
12 role.

13 Q. Are you familiar with corporate documents that govern  
14 companies that are incorporated in the Cayman Islands?

15 A. Yes. Those would be the memorandum and articles of  
16 association of the company.

17 Q. So what is a memorandum and article of association?

18 A. It's essentially the constitution of the company. It's the  
19 rules that govern how the company operates, what the company  
20 can do, what the shareholders can vote on, when they should  
21 vote, what the directors' powers are, and when the directors  
22 will vote. And it's also a contract between the company and  
23 the shareholders.

24 Q. What about board resolutions?

25 A. So a board resolution is -- a board is the collective noun

1 for a group of directors, for all the directors together. And  
2 when they get together and resolve or decide on something, that  
3 is recorded in a document which is called a board resolution.

4 Q. I'd like to go through some documents with you now, and  
5 I've left paper copies for you.

6 MR. BIALE: I'm going ask Mr. Pollock to pull them up.  
7 So Mr. Pollock, if you could first pull up Defendant's  
8 Exhibit 104 in evidence.

9 Q. Taking a look at the front of in document, Mr. Golaszewski,  
10 what is this?

11 A. This is a copy of memorandum and articles of association of  
12 Asia Special Situation Acquisition Corp.

13 Q. Is this a typical kind of document?

14 A. Yes, it is. This is what the memorandum and articles of  
15 association of a Cayman company would generally look like,  
16 although for each company the content is different.

17 (Continued on next page)

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1 Q. Just taking a look at the top, can you read the first two  
2 lines at the very top?

3 A. "The companies law (2004 revision) of the Cayman Islands."

4 Q. What is that reference?

5 A. The companies law is the statutes in the Cayman Islands  
6 that governs the law of companies. It's based on the English  
7 companies law. And the 2004 revision -- it's revised from time  
8 to time to keep up-to-date with developments. The 2004  
9 revision means that this was the company's law which was  
10 revised in 2004 and was in place at the time that these  
11 memorandum and articles of association were put into place.

12 Q. So we are going to look at a few provisions of these  
13 documents. We don't have a way to blow them up so I have  
14 prepared some PowerPoint slides. But I will ask you to just  
15 look at the pages of the documents.

16 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you can pull up the first  
17 PowerPoint slide.

18 Q. I am just going to ask you, actually, about the second  
19 piece of this first.

20 Turning your attention to page 3 of Defendant's  
21 Exhibit 104.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Do you see that provision? It's called "issue of shares"?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Can you just read that?

1 A. "Issue of shares. Subject to the provisions, if any, in  
2 the memorandum (and to any direction that may be given by the  
3 company in general meeting) and without prejudice to any rights  
4 attached to any existing shares, the directors may allot,  
5 issue, grant options over, or otherwise dispose of shares  
6 (including fractions of a share) with or without preferred,  
7 deferred or other rights or restrictions, whether in regard to  
8 dividend, voting, return of capital or otherwise and to such  
9 persons, at such times and on such other terms as they think  
10 proper."

11 Q. Can you just summarize what that means in plain English?

12 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Well, ladies and gentlemen, you will  
14 recall that Nazan Akdeniz was called by the government and  
15 testified and gave some general background and understanding of  
16 some documents. She was not tendered as an expert witness and  
17 was not allowed to offer opinions.

18 Well, this witness is in the same position and is not  
19 allowed to offer opinions. But if you're simply asking for a  
20 summary of what was read, I am going to allow that question to  
21 be answered.

22 MS. MERMELSTEIN: May we approach?

23 THE COURT: No.

24 What is your understanding of what this provision  
25 says?

1 THE WITNESS: It gives the directors discretion and  
2 allows them the power to issue shares, essentially.

3 THE COURT: Next question.

4 MR. BIALE: Thank you, your Honor.

5 BY MR. BIALE:

6 Q. I am going to turn your attention back to page 3, but for  
7 those of us watching on the screen, it's just right above.

8 Do you see a definition of directors?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. What does that say?

11 A. "Directors means the directors for the time being of the  
12 company."

13 Q. Now, if I could turn your attention to Government Exhibit  
14 200.

15 MR. BIALE: If you could pull up Government Exhibit  
16 200, just briefly.

17 Q. Do you have that document in front of you, Mr. Goleszewski?

18 A. I do.

19 Q. What is this document?

20 THE COURT: Government Exhibit 200.

21 A. This is the second amended and restated memorandum and  
22 articles of association of Gerova Financial Group, Ltd.

23 Q. Why would there be a second amended memorandum?

24 A. A company from time to time may amend its articles and  
25 change the terms that they are in as long as those changes are

1 agreed by the shareholders. And so this would be the amended  
2 memorandum and articles of association. It's called second  
3 because the original is the first.

4 Q. And you see the last line of text there. There is a date.  
5 Can you read that last line?

6 A. "Adopted by special resolution passed on 19 January 2010  
7 and effective on blob January 2010."

8 Q. Presumably blob, it's a placeholder for a date?

9 A. I would presume so, yes.

10 Q. What is a special resolution?

11 A. There's two kinds of resolutions shareholders can pass.  
12 One is ordinary resolution, one is special resolution.

13 Ordinary resolution is a 50 percent majority. A  
14 special resolution normally means a 75 percent majority, or  
15 that can be changed in the articles, but certainly more than 50  
16 percent.

17 Q. And just to be clear, this would be a resolution of the  
18 shareholders, not of the board of directors?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. Now, I am going to ask you to look at some provisions in  
21 the documents.

22 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you could pull up the next  
23 PowerPoint slide.

24 Q. Mr. Golezowski, while we are waiting for that to come up,  
25 if you could look at page A8 of the document.

1 Just turning your attention to the provision that says  
2 "issue of shares."

3 I am not going to ask you to read the whole thing  
4 aloud, but if you could just look at it and let us know if that  
5 looks the same to you as the provision in the prior memorandum.

6 A. Yes, it looks very similar, yes.

7 Q. Now, if you could turn back to A5.

8 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you could go to the next  
9 slide.

10 Q. Can you read that definition to us?

11 A. "Directors means the directors for the time being of the  
12 company, or as the case may be, the directors assembled as a  
13 board or as a committee thereof."

14 Q. Is that different from the definition we saw before?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. How is it different?

17 A. It extends the definition to the directors as a collective  
18 group. So it means --

19 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Sustained. Answer stricken.

21 Next question.

22 Q. If you could turn to page A21 of your document.

23 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you could go to the next  
24 slide.

25 Q. I am just going to ask you to read that provision to us.



1 A. "Presumption of assent. A director of the company who is  
2 present at the meeting of the board of directors at which  
3 action on any company matter is taken shall be presumed to have  
4 assented to the action taken unless his dissent shall be  
5 entered in the minutes of the meeting or unless he shall file  
6 his written dissent from such action with the person acting as  
7 the chairman or secretary of the meeting before the adjournment  
8 thereof or shall forward such dissent by registered post to  
9 such person immediately after the adjournment of the meeting.  
10 Such right to dissent shall not apply to a director who voted  
11 in favor of such action."

12 Q. Can you just briefly summarize that provision?

13 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, your Honor.

14 THE COURT: I think it pretty much stands for itself.

15 What does registered post mean?

16 THE WITNESS: Registered post means something similar  
17 to, say, DHL. It's something where the sending and the receipt  
18 of the post is recorded. So not just putting it into the  
19 ordinary post, where there is no stamp, but actually where you  
20 could record the date you sent it and the date it was received.

21 THE COURT: What does assent mean?

22 THE WITNESS: Assent means voting positively for the  
23 resolution.

24 THE COURT: So assented means agreed with or voted  
25 for?

1 THE WITNESS: Correct. Yes, your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Thank you.

3 Next question.

4 BY MR. BIALE:

5 Q. If you could turn, Mr. Goleszewski, to page A22.

6 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you could go to the next  
7 slide.

8 Q. This one is a little longer. So if you could just have you  
9 start reading and then I may ask you to stop.

10 A. "Delegation of directors' powers. The directors may  
11 delegate any of their powers to any committee consisting of one  
12 or more directors. They may also delegate any managing  
13 director or any director holding any other executive office  
14 such as their powers as they consider desirable to be exercised  
15 by him provided that alternate director may not act as managing  
16 director and the appointment of the managing director shall be  
17 revoked forthwith if he ceases to be a director."

18 Q. I think that's good. Thank you.

19 Let me turn your attention to the next document, which  
20 is Government Exhibit 210.

21 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you could pull up the next  
22 slide.

23 Q. Mr. Goleszewski, this document is Bates stamped -- I'm  
24 going to ask you to look at it -- RKGF010354.

25 A. Yes, I have it.

1 Q. Is this a different type of document from what we have been  
2 looking at so far?

3 A. Yes. We have been looking at the articles of association  
4 and this is a resolution of the board of directors.

5 Q. On the top, what does that reflect there?

6 A. It has the name of the company and then it says, Written  
7 resolutions of the board of directors of the company dated 25  
8 March 2008.

9 Q. I am just going to ask you to read the first resolution  
10 that is -- it's going to be the second resolution on your page,  
11 but the first resolution that's blown up here.

12 A. "Resolved, that any of the proper officers of the company  
13 be, and each of them acting singly hereby is, authorized,  
14 empowered and directed for, in the name and on behalf of the  
15 company or any of its subsidiaries, to take any and all  
16 actions, to negotiate for, to enter into all agreements,  
17 perform all such further acts and things, to execute, file,  
18 deliver or record in the name and on behalf of the company and,  
19 if requested or required, under the company's corporate seal,  
20 all such certificates, agreements, instruments or other  
21 documents, and to make all such payments as they in their  
22 judgment or in the judgment of any one or more of them, may  
23 deem necessary or advisable in order to carry into effect the  
24 purposes and intent of, or consummate the transactions  
25 contemplated by the foregoing resolutions, and/or all of the

1 transactions contemplated therein or thereby, the authority  
2 therefor to be conclusively evidenced by the taking of such  
3 action or the execution and delivery of such documents."

4 Q. I am going to have you stop there. That one is a little  
5 long. So if you can just summarize it for us briefly.

6 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection.

7 THE COURT: I am going to sustain that.

8 The defense has no burden in this case. They need not  
9 do anything. But a party who wishes to raise a point of  
10 foreign law has a process for doing that and requesting the  
11 court to instruct the jury on the point of foreign law. So  
12 there is a process for that. That process has not been invoked  
13 in this case. So that's where we are.

14 I do have one question that arises from the plain  
15 reading. What does the phrase "foregoing resolutions and/or  
16 all of the transactions contemplated therein or thereby" refer  
17 to, if you know?

18 THE WITNESS: I would take that to mean the  
19 resolutions in this document and the transactions that are  
20 contemplated by those resolutions. So it's referring to this  
21 document as a whole.

22 THE COURT: Thank you.

23 Next question.

24 BY MR. BIALE:

25 Q. If I could just have you read the -- before I do that, can

1 you just tell us, when it says "resolved," what does that mean?

2 A. It means decided. It means that that's the board's  
3 decision that they have voted upon.

4 Q. Thank you.

5 Now, if I can have you read the second resolution.

6 A. "Resolved, that all actions heretofore taken by the  
7 officers, directors, or agents of the company relating to the  
8 foregoing matters and resolutions be, and they hereby are,  
9 approved, adopted, ratified and confirmed in all respects as if  
10 they had been done pursuant to specific authority granted to  
11 them by the board of directors."

12 Q. Thank you.

13 Now, I am going to have you take a look at Defense  
14 Exhibit 106.

15 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you could pull up the next  
16 slide.

17 Q. Do you have that document in front of you?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. The jury now has the first page in front of them.

20 What is this document?

21 A. This, again, is similar to the last document. It's a  
22 written resolution of the directors of the company. And it's  
23 dated 15 January 2010.

24 Q. Underneath that, where it says "extraordinary general  
25 meeting of shareholders," what is that?

1 A. So there is an annual general meeting of the shareholders.  
2 So once a year the shareholders get together and decide on  
3 things. And if there is another meeting of shareholders that  
4 is not the annual general meeting, it's called an extraordinary  
5 general meeting.

6 Q. Can you just see from the front of this document what the  
7 purpose of the extraordinary general meeting was?

8 A. Yes. It's in 1.1(a).

9 It says, "The meeting has been called for the purpose  
10 of considering and, if thought fit, passing and approving the  
11 following resolutions."

12 And then there ask a list of the resolutions.

13 Q. Do you see where it says "by ordinary resolution that the  
14 following acquisitions by ASSAC be approved"?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And in part (c) below, that lists a particular acquisition.  
17 Can you see what that acquisition is?

18 A. Yes. It's defined as the Wimbledon agreements.

19 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you can go to the next  
20 slide.

21 Q. Mr. Golezowski, if you could look at the next page of your  
22 document just read the (b) and (d).

23 A. "It is resolved that each of Marshall Manley, Gary Hirst,  
24 Tore Nag, Michael Hlavsa, and Keith Laslop be designated as an  
25 authorized signatory (as defined below) of the company."

1 Q. Can you tell us what authorized signatory means?

2 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, your Honor.

3 THE COURT: I am going to allow the witness to answer  
4 that question.

5 What does authorized signatory mean.

6 THE WITNESS: It's defined in the paragraph below in  
7 (c), and it means, essentially, somebody who is authorized to  
8 sign on behalf of the company.

9 THE COURT: Thank you.

10 Q. Now, if you can read subsection (d).

11 A. "Each of Gary Hirst and Michael Hlavsa, with full power or  
12 substitution, be designated as proxies named by the director in  
13 said proxy statements."

14 Q. I'm sorry. I think we have something different there.

15 If you can go forward to page 5 of your document. The  
16 subsection (d) that's on the slide is actually the subsection  
17 (d) that's on that page. It's 4.2(d).

18 A. "Each of Marshall Manley, Gary Hirst, Tore Nag, Michael  
19 Hlavsa and Keith Laslop be designated as an authorized  
20 signatory of the company in order to sign the Wimbledon  
21 agreements or any ancillary document."

22 Q. What is an ancillary document?

23 A. That's defined, I think, in the body of this resolution,  
24 and it means, essentially, a document that is supporting the  
25 main documents in the agreements.

1 Q. Now, if you can read subsection (f).

2 A. "The company do give, make, sign, execute and deliver all  
 3 such ancillary documents, including the management agreements  
 4 and registration rights agreement with Weston, as may in the  
 5 sole opinion and absolute discretion of the directors or any  
 6 attorney or authorized signatory be considered necessary or  
 7 desirable for the purpose of compliance with any condition  
 8 precedent or the coming into effect of or otherwise giving  
 9 effect to, consummating or completing or procuring the  
 10 performance and completion of all or any of the transactions  
 11 contemplated by or referred to in the Wimbledon agreements, and  
 12 the company do all such acts and things as might in the opinion  
 13 and absolute discretion of the directors or any attorney or  
 14 authorized signatory be necessary or desirable for the purposes  
 15 stated above."

16 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you can go to the next  
 17 slide.

18 Q. Mr. Goleszewski, if you can advance to page 7 of your  
 19 document.

20 Now we are in Section 7.2. There are some further  
 21 resolutions. If you can just read subsection (b).

22 A. "It is resolved that the issuance of such preferred shares  
 23 and ordinary shares be approved, in such amounts and to such  
 24 persons as may be provided for in the foregoing agreements and  
 25 any ancillary documents each as may be approved by an



1 authorized signatory, provided, however, that such amount shall  
2 not exceed 1 million preferred shares and 175 million ordinary  
3 shares (including ordinary shares issuable upon conversion of  
4 the preferred shares) without the further consent and approval  
5 of the directors."

6 Q. Just on subsection (d), does that look similar to you as  
7 the provision that we just read?

8 A. Yes, it does.

9 Q. Lastly, in this document --

10 MR. BIALE: Mr. Pollock, if you can advance to the  
11 next.

12 Q. -- you see there is a Section 9.1. If you could just read  
13 the heading for Section 9 on page 8 of your document?

14 A. The heading is "general authorization."

15 Q. I am not going to ask you to read all of 9.1, but is that  
16 similar to the provision that we saw earlier that the Court  
17 asked you about regarding doing acts in furtherance of the  
18 foregoing resolutions?

19 A. Yes, I think so.

20 Q. Section 10, is that similar to the "ratification of prior  
21 actions" provision we saw before?

22 A. Yes.

23 MR. BIALE: We can go to the next slide, please.

24 Q. This we are going to cover very briefly. If you could look  
25 at Defense Trial Exhibit 105, Mr. Golezowski.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. What is that document?

3 A. This is the third amended and restated memorandum and  
4 articles of association of Gerova Financial Group, Ltd.

5 Q. What is the effective date on that one?

6 A. The effective date is 19 May 2010.

7 Q. Just turning your attention to page 4 of the document and  
8 the provision that's up on the PowerPoint now, is that the same  
9 provision regarding issue of shares that was in the previous  
10 memorandum?

11 A. Yes, I think so.

12 MR. BIALE: We can go to the next slide.

13 Q. Is directors defined in the same way as it was in the prior  
14 document?

15 A. Yes, as defined in the second amended articles of  
16 association.

17 MR. BIALE: We can skip to the next slide.

18 Q. Same presumption of assent provision? It's on page 20 of  
19 your document.

20 A. Yes, I think so.

21 MR. BIALE: The next slide.

22 Q. The same delegation provision on page 21 of your document?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Let's go to the slide. If I could have you look at  
25 Government Exhibit 222.

1 What is this document?

2 A. So these are minutes of a meeting of the board of directors  
3 of Gerova Financial Group, Ltd., dated 6 October 2010.

4 Q. If I could just have you look on the second page, the  
5 "ratification of shares" portion, which is blown up on the  
6 jurors' screen and have you read that.

7 A. "Ratification of share issuances. Gary Hirst presented to  
8 the board of directors of the company the warrants and shares  
9 that have been issued in connection with settlement agreements  
10 with TAG Virgin Islands, Inc., Ymer Shahini and Oxbridge Group  
11 LLC.

12 "Thereupon, after full discussion and upon motion duly  
13 made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was resolved that  
14 the board of directors does hereby ratify the warrants and  
15 shares issued to TAG Virgin Islands, Inc., Ymer Shahini and  
16 Oxbridge Group LLC in connection with settlement agreements."

17 Q. Thank you.

18 MR. BIALE: You can take down the PowerPoint  
19 presentation, Mr. Pollock.

20 Q. We are just going to look at a few more documents.

21 In connection with this case, did you also look at  
22 statutory documents for a company called Pennine Investors,  
23 Ltd.?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. What are statutory documents?

1 A. So those, again, are the memorandum and articles of  
2 association or resolutions passed by the shareholders or the  
3 board of directors.

4 MR. BIALE: If you can pull up Defendant's Trial  
5 Exhibit 900A.

6 Q. You have it in front of you?

7 A. I do.

8 Q. Just so we are clear, again, these are not documents for  
9 Gerova, these are for a separate company, right?

10 A. Yes. It says that it's a register of members of Pennine  
11 Investors, Ltd.

12 Q. If you can take a look -- first of all, what is a register  
13 of members?

14 A. So this is a list of all of the members or shareholders --  
15 it means the same thing -- of a company, and it would list what  
16 shares they held, when they became a member or shareholder, and  
17 when they ceased to be a member or shareholder.

18 Q. Do you see there's two tables there and in the second table  
19 it says "management shares"?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. What are management shares?

22 A. So management shares -- normally, with an ordinary share,  
23 it's one share, one vote. But with management shares, they  
24 often have super voting rights in order to allow the holders of  
25 those shares to maintain control of the management of the

1 company. So, for example, they might have ten votes per share.

2 Q. The first row in that second table, what is the member  
3 name?

4 A. Hirst International Asset Advisory Ltd.-Anguilla.

5 Q. How many shares does that member hold?

6 A. Zero.

7 Q. Then on the next row, who is that member?

8 A. Hirst International Asset Advisory Ltd.-British Virgin  
9 Islands.

10 Q. How many shares does that member hold?

11 A. Zero.

12 Q. Do you see on the right side there is a narrative?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Can you just read from 31 October 2006?

15 A. "31 October 2006. Transfer of ten management shares from  
16 Hirst International Advisory Ltd.-British Virgin Islands to  
17 Axiat, Inc. for the total consideration of U.S. dollars 0.01."

18 Q. Now, can you take a look at Defense Exhibit 900C?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Is this a continuation of the register of members for  
21 Pennine Investors, Ltd.?

22 A. Yes, I believe so.

23 Q. The first row, what is the member name?

24 A. Axiat, Inc.

25 Q. How many shares does Axiat, Inc. hold?

1 A. Zero.

2 Q. Now turning your attention to Defense Exhibit 900B.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What is this document?

5 A. This is a register of directors and officers of Pennine  
6 Investors, Ltd.

7 Q. Do you see six lines down where it says Gary Hirst?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What does that reflect?

10 A. So that reflects that Gary Hirst became a director on the  
11 28th of July 1998, and he resigned as a director on the 27th of  
12 February 2010.

13 Q. Do you see at the bottom Gary Hirst is again listed. What  
14 does that state?

15 A. It states that Gary Hirst was appointed as president on 18  
16 May 2001.

17 Q. What is president?

18 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: I don't think that requires an  
20 explanation, unless it's a legal opinion, which in any event  
21 it's inadmissible.

22 Next question.

23 Q. If you can take a look at Defense Exhibit 900D.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. What is this document?

1 A. So this is a written special resolution of the management  
2 shareholders of Pennine Investors, Ltd., dated 27 February  
3 2010.

4 Q. If I could have you read the first two resolutions, please.

5 A. "Resolved, that the three existing directors be and they  
6 hereby are removed as directors of the company.

7 "Resolved, that the following be and he hereby is  
8 appointed as the sole director of the company until such time  
9 as his successor be elected or appointed.

10 "Arie Jan Van Roon, Care of Transtax, LLC, World Trade  
11 Center, Via Lugano 6982, Lugano, Switzerland."

12 Q. We are going to look at one more document, which is Defense  
13 Exhibit 900F.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. What is this document?

16 A. This is a unanimous written resolution of the sole director  
17 of Pennine Investors, Ltd., dated March 2, 2010.

18 Q. If you could just read the first resolution.

19 A. "Resolved, that the request to transfer of all of the  
20 management shares of the company from Axiat, Inc. to Pure Glow  
21 Finance (BVI) is hereby approved."

22 MR. BIALE: No further questions.

23 THE COURT: You may cross-examine.

24 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Nothing for this witness, your  
25 Honor.

1 THE COURT: You may step down. Thank you.

2 (Witness excused)

3 THE COURT: Call your next witness.

4 MS. HARRIS: We call Ashling Walsh who will read  
5 defense exhibits to the jury.

6 We have prepared binders for the jury and your Honor.  
7 We have provided one to the government already.

8 THE COURT: Is Ms. Walsh going to be providing any  
9 testimony or is she just reading from documents?

10 MS. HARRIS: Purely reading.

11 THE COURT: Then no oath is required.

12 MS. HARRIS: I apologize. We didn't prepare enough  
13 for the court reporter and all the jurors.

14 THE COURT: You can have mine and I can read it on the  
15 screen.

16 ASHLING WALSH

17 DIRECT EXAMINATION

18 BY MS. HARRIS:

19 Q. Beginning with Defense Trial Exhibit 1700, and drawing your  
20 attention to the body of the e-mail in the center of the page,  
21 could you read for the jury to whom this e-mail is addressed,  
22 the from line and the date, please?

23 A. The e-mail is from Ymer Shahini, ymer@europe.com, to  
24 jmg@sentinellawgroup.com, date March 31, 2009.

25 Q. If you could read the e-mail beginning with the "dear" line



1 and the first two sentences of the e-mail, please.

2 A. "Dear Jared, in FIFA's club, overseeing Zurich, I believe  
3 this was one of the best and most fruitful meetings I had  
4 recently. Their words 'this whole project now depends on you  
5 and your seriousness about moving forward, you may count on our  
6 full support' are still echoing in my mind."

7 Q. If you could drop down to the lend of the e-mail and read  
8 the sentence that begins "I believe."

9 A. "I believe that momentum is great; the fact that we have no  
10 competition in this area gives us the upper hand. However, the  
11 most important fact and what was stressed in the meeting as  
12 well is that we have to act fast, ASAP. Thanks, Ymer."

13 Q. Now turning to Defense Trial Exhibit 1701.

14 Again, drawing your attention to the middle of the  
15 page, if you could read for the jury the from, date and to  
16 line, please.

17 A. E-mail from Ymer Shahini to jmg@sentinellawgroup.com, date  
18 March 11, 2009.

19 Q. If you could read the passage in the middle of the e-mail  
20 that begins with "once again."

21 A. "Once again you're talking to highest level possible  
22 through this right hand -- delegate & Min. of Technology, this  
23 is best I can do from my side. It is unlikely that anyone  
24 could do better at this stage. Your team should persuade them  
25 about proven technology, quick. Results and outline clear

1 co-operation strategy while proposing an action plan who needs  
2 what to deliver and by when. Thanks, Ymer."

3 Q. Turning to Defendant's Trial Exhibit 1702, which is a  
4 two-page document, and beginning on the second page.

5 The section that begins with "original message," if  
6 you could read the from, to and date on that e-mail, please.

7 A. E-mail from Galanis2008@gmail.com to Ymer Shahini, date  
8 Tuesday, the 5th of May 2009.

9 Q. The subject line, please.

10 A. "Re: Forward: Kosovo Investment Promotion Event."

11 Q. If you could read that e-mail beginning with the name Ymer.

12 A. "Ymer, thanks for being on top of this. I can only push so  
13 hard at this end as they are fighting battles for survival  
14 every day. I have recommended seriously that someone be at  
15 this meeting. I will let you know my progress. Dekes."

16 Q. Now, flipping back to the first page, you see the section  
17 near the bottom that begins with "forwarded message." If you  
18 could read the from, date and to line in that e-mail, please.

19 A. E-mail from Ymer Shahini to Galanis2008@gmail.com, date  
20 Tuesday, May 5, 2009.

21 Q. If you could read the e-mail that follows?

22 A. "Deks, regardless of this event, a separate meeting down  
23 here could happen any time you want, with following: Prime  
24 Minister, Minister of Environment, Minister of Finance and  
25 Economy, Minister of Energy and Mines.

1 "In addition to this, your team will be meeting with  
2 private landowners where deposits are. This is confirmed and  
3 awaiting your signal to schedule it. Please let me know what  
4 is outlook from your side.

5 "Thanks, Ymer."

6 Q. Then turning back to the first page, with the section of  
7 the e-mail chain that begins "From: Galanis2008," if you could  
8 read the from, date and to line in that e-mail.

9 A. E-mail from Galanis2008@gmail.com to  
10 jason@holmbycompanies.com, Jesse Galanis,  
11 jmg@sentinellawgroup.com, support,  
12 support@sentinellawgroup.com, date May 6, 2009.

13 Q. And the e-mail body, please.

14 A. "Guys, the world is ours."

15 Q. Now, I would like to turn to Defense Trial Exhibit 1000.

16 Just drawing your attention to the section that says  
17 "items ordered."

18 If you could read immediately following 1.

19 A. "How the shorts raid your stock and destroy your company  
20 and what to do about it, Esq. John Lux and Bradley E. Essman."

21 Q. And the shipping address?

22 A. "Gary T. Hirst, 1515 International Parkway, Suite 2031, FYV  
23 Consulting, Inc., Heathrow, FL 32746-7635, United States."

24 Q. And the date of shipment beginning with "shipped on"?

25 A. "Shipped on November 26, 2010."

1 Q. Now, flipping to the Defendant's Trial Exhibit 1001A.

2 If you could just read the top four lines of this  
3 document.

4 A. E-mail from Jason G, jason@holmbycompanies.com, to Gary  
5 Hirst, sent Monday, November 1, 2010, Subject: 18  
6 Underperforming Financial Stocks Being Targeted by Short  
7 Sellers-Seeking Alpha."

8 Q. Turning to 1001B, please.

9 You could just read the top, from, sent, to, subject  
10 line in order, please.

11 A. E-mail from Jason G (jason@holmbycompanies.com), to Gary  
12 Hirst, sent Friday, November 26, 2010, Subject: Yahoo! Message  
13 Boards-Gerova Financial Group, Ltd. Is anyone not shorting  
14 this pig?"

15 Q. I am now turning to Defense Trial Exhibit 1000E.

16 If you could read the top four lines for the jury,  
17 please.

18 A. E-mail from Stephen Weiss (sweiss@hodgsonruss.com), to  
19 jason@holmbycompanies.com, Gary Hirst and Shant Chalian, sent  
20 Wednesday, December 1, 2010, and the subject is right offering.

21 Q. If you could read the body of the e-mail, please.

22 A. "We would love to take credit, but Gary came up with what  
23 could turn out to be a great idea. We are looking into it and  
24 must talk to Bermuda counsel in the morning. If it works, we  
25 will call it 'Dr. Hirst's poison pill.' Stay tuned."

1 Q. If you could turn to Defense Exhibit 1001L, please.

2 It's a three-page document. If you could turn your  
3 attention to the bottom of page 2, at the bottom of the chain  
4 under the line, if you could read the from, sent and to line,  
5 please.

6 A. E-mail from Shant Chalian to Brad Adderley, CC: Stephen  
7 Weiss, Eric Pinero, Gary Hirst, sent Thursday, December 2,  
8 2010.

9 Q. And the subject, please.

10 A. The subject is "special dividend."

11 Q. If you could just read the first two sentences of that  
12 e-mail.

13 A. Brad, Gerova is interested in issuing to all of its  
14 shareholders a special dividend. The dividend would be payable  
15 to all ordinary shareholders as of a set record date and would  
16 consist solely of a right to purchase one ordinary share at a  
17 future date, the effective date of the registration statement  
18 approximately July 2011."

19 Q. If you could continue to finish the rest of that paragraph.

20 A. "The right would be exercisable at some discount, yet to be  
21 determined, to the market price of the ordinary shares as of  
22 such date. Each ordinary share outstanding as of the record  
23 would be entitled to receive one right. While not a poison  
24 pill, the idea would be to distribute this right in the same  
25 manner that poison pills are normally distributed."

1 Q. Turning back to page 1 of that e-mail.

2 The e-mail in the middle of the page from Chalian,  
3 Shant, if you could just read the from, sent, and to line,  
4 please.

5 A. E-mail from Shant Chalian to Brad Adderley, Stephen Weiss,  
6 Gary Hirst, Eric Pinero, Jason Galanis, lucasmann@gerova.com,  
7 sent Tuesday, January 11, 2011, and subject, Re: Special  
8 Dividend.

9 Q. If you could read that first paragraph.

10 A. "As per Gary Hirst, we are to move forward with the special  
11 dividend. Accordingly, I would ask Brad to prepare a written  
12 consent to be signed by all of the directors, in lieu of which  
13 the matter may instead be discussed at a formally called  
14 meeting of the board."

15 Q. If you could read the last sentence in that section of the  
16 e-mail.

17 A. "All, this means that we will have to advise NYSE of the  
18 dividend. This cannot be done without noticing them. Thanks."

19 Q. Thank you.

20 Turning your attention to Defense Trial Exhibit 1126.

21 If you could read the from, to and sent line, please.

22 A. E-mail from jason@fund.com to Arie Van Roon  
23 (avr@transtaxllp.com) and Gary Hirst, sent Saturday, January  
24 30, 2010.

25 Q. If you could read the two paragraphs, essentially three

1 sentences, beginning with "we really need."

2 A. "We really need Master Trust distribution for Gerova to  
3 support Gerova's life settlement policy business. They said  
4 they're doing 2-plus million dollars a month. Would be  
5 enormous for Gerova. What's the status?"

6 Q. Now, let's turn to Defendant's Exhibit 1127.

7 If you could read the from, sent and to lines, please.

8 A. E-mail from jason@fund.com, to Jack Doueck  
9 (jd@stillwatercapital.com), Rick Rudy  
10 (rrudy@stillwatercapital.com)

11 Q. If you could read the first sentence of that e-mail.

12 A. "The Master Trust docs represent and warrant that there is  
13 475 million euro and 30 million euro redeemable now, and  
14 therefore liquid."

15 Q. Now, let's turn to Defense Trial Exhibit 1130.

16 If you could read the from, sent and to line, please.

17 A. E-mail from jason.galanis@nobleinv.com, to Lou Kreisberg  
18 (lou@loukreisberg.com), Elliot Bertram  
19 (ebertram@madisonpartnersny.com), and Lucas Mann  
20 (l.mann@me.com), sent Wednesday, June 2, 2010, and subject GSC.

21 Q. If you could read the first two lines beginning with  
22 "gentlemen."

23 A. "Gentlemen, Arie Van Roon, on behalf of Noble and Master  
24 Trust, is prepared to provide proof of funds to GSC, and to  
25 move ahead with the SPA. Closing would have to be three

1 weeks."

2 Q. Thank you.

3 Turning now to Defendant's Trial Exhibit 1134.

4 If you could read the from, sent and to line there,  
5 please.

6 A. E-mail from Jason G (jason@holmbycompanies.com), to  
7 l.mann.me.com Mann, sent Wednesday, April 28, 2010.

8 Q. And the e-mail begins with "Jack," but then if you could  
9 skip down to the seventh paragraph, if we can call it that, and  
10 just read the phrase that begins with "also."

11 A. "Also, we have Master Trust liquidity."

12 Q. Who signs the e-mail?

13 A. Jason.

14 Q. Now, turning to Defense Trial Exhibit 1144, which is a  
15 two-page document.

16 Beginning on the second page at the bottom, if you  
17 could read the from, sent and to line in that e-mail.

18 A. From jason.galanis@nobleinv.com, to Rick Rudy, sent  
19 Tuesday, May 11, 2010, subject Re: Stillwater Files.

20 Q. If you could read the few lines that begin with "I'm going  
21 to focus."

22 A. "I'm going to focus elsewhere. 70 million euro in  
23 liquidity at Master Trust and control of Weston and a Harcourt  
24 joint venture, and a Bank of New York venture."

25 Q. If you can just read the end of the e-mail beginning with



1 "sorry."

2 A. "Sorry. It's a sad day for me. Jason."

3 Q. Then moving to the top of the page with the e-mail that  
4 begins with Jason colon, if you could skip down and read the  
5 phrase that begins with "you know."

6 A. "You know that Jack and I would do just about anything you  
7 ask us to do."

8 Q. Then continue to read the rest of that e-mail.

9 A. "I'm asking you to not walk away. My e-mails have one  
10 purpose: To protect myself from someone who keeps rattling a  
11 sword in my face. We need you here and the sooner the better."

12 Q. Turning back to the first page of Defendant's Exhibit 1144,  
13 if you could read the from, date, and to line underneath the  
14 section that begins "begin forwarded message."

15 A. E-mail from Jason G (jason@holmbycompanies.com), to Joe  
16 Bianco (j.bianco@aya.yale.edu), May 11, 2010.

17 Q. If you could just read the entire e-mail, please.

18 A. "Joe, I wanted to forward you this private e-mail so you  
19 can appreciate why I am not able to go forward with GFC. My  
20 risk assessment is that I am walking into a certain trap. I'm  
21 going to work on Master Trust. It's where the money is anyway.  
22 Jason."

23 Q. Now, I would like to turn to Defense Trial Exhibit 1143.

24 MS. HARRIS: I'm sorry, your Honor. I think this  
25 e-mail is largely duplicative of the e-mail before.

1 THE COURT: Thank you.

2 Q. So now we are going to turn to Defendant's Trial Exhibit  
3 901A.

4 If you could begin, Ms. Walsh, by reading the from,  
5 sent and to line on the top of this e-mail, please.

6 A. E-mail from Terence Thorpe (terence.thorpe@socgen.com), to  
7 Old Gary, cc: Pierre-Alain Pesenti, Peter Pattschull, sent  
8 Friday, February 5, 2010, Subject: Subscription of SG Private  
9 Banking (Suisse) S.A. in Global Asset Fund Ltd.

10 Q. If you could just read the body of the e-mail message,  
11 please.

12 A. "Dear sir, please find the subscription documents executed  
13 in favor of SG Private Banking (Suisse) S.A. with reference:  
14 Wimbledon. Thank you for confirming us the good reception.  
15 Best regards, Terence Thorpe."

16 Q. Turning the page to the first page of the attachment, if  
17 you could read the passage that begins -- the few lines that  
18 begin with "subject" in the middle of the page.

19 A. "Subject: Global Asset Fund Ltd.

20 "We are confirming the following subscription  
21 reference: Wimbledon.

22 "U.S. dollars 5 million.

23 "For the trade date: February 1, 2010.

24 "Value date for the payment: February the 5th, 2010.

25 "The subscriber is SG Private Banking (Suisse) S.A."

1 Q. Thank you.

2 Then turning the page to the next document that's  
3 attached to that e-mail, still in Defendant's Exhibit 901A.

4 If you could read just the title of the document  
5 that's centered in large capital letters in the beginning.

6 A. "Application form for shares, minimum subscription, \$1  
7 million."

8 Q. Right above that, please.

9 A. "Global Asset Fund Ltd."

10 Q. If you could just read the first few lines of the first  
11 paragraph.

12 A. "The undersigned subscriber (the subscriber) hereby  
13 subscribes for \$5 million (the subscription amount) of class A  
14 shares (the shares) of Global Asset Fund Ltd. (the company),  
15 par value \$0.01, in accordance with the terms of the  
16 confidential offering memorandum, dated 1 January 2008 (the  
17 memorandum) and of the memorandum of association and the  
18 articles of association of the company (as the same may be  
19 amended from time to time). Subscriber agrees to pay the  
20 subscription amount by bank telegraphic transfer from:

21 "SG Private Banking (Suisse) S.A., blank (name of  
22 bank), for value no later than three business days prior to the  
23 date that subscriber requests the shares be issued."

24 Q. Thank you.

25 The rest of the pages we can skip and go ahead to

1 Defendant's Trial Exhibit 1140.

2 If you could just read the from, sent and to line,  
3 please.

4 A. E-mail from Jack Doueck (jd@stillwatercapital.com), to  
5 Marshall Manley, Old Gary, CC: Joe Bianco, sent Sunday, March  
6 21, 2010.

7 Q. If you could just skip down to item number 6 -- I'm sorry.  
8 If you could read the subject line, please.

9 A. "Subject: Proposed agenda items for board meetings 4/7-4/8  
10 Bahamas."

11 Q. If you could skip down to item number 6 and read that.

12 A. "Financial services acquisitions. Master Trust, Seymour  
13 Pierce, CSI-RIA's, others."

14 Q. Thank you.

15 Now turning to 901B, please.

16 If you could read the from, sent, to and subject line,  
17 please.

18 A. E-mail from Terence Thorpe (terence.thorpe@socgen.com), to  
19 Old Gary, sent Tuesday, February 23, 2010, Subject: Global  
20 Asset Fund Limits/Subscription \$5 million, Societe Generale  
21 Private Banking (Suisse).

22 Q. If you could just read the short e-mail that's contained in  
23 that message.

24 A. "Good afternoon, regarding our subscription in the  
25 above-mentioned fund, could you please confirm us that the

1 trade date of February the 1st 2010 was accepted?

2 "Thank you in advance. Best regards, Terence Thorpe."

3 MS. HARRIS: Can I have one moment, Judge? I'm sorry.

4 THE COURT: You may.

5 MS. HARRIS: Can I have a moment to confer with the  
6 government?

7 THE COURT: Yes.

8 (Pause)

9 MS. HARRIS: There was a current e-mail in here that  
10 was unmarked, but it turns out already to be a government  
11 exhibit, and we are going to, for the record, remark the next  
12 page, which is Bates number GTH717, as Defendant's Exhibit  
13 1307. And I now offer it, your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Any objection?

15 MS. MERMELSTEIN: No, your Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right.

17 (Defendant's Exhibit 1307 received in evidence)

18 Q. If you could read the from, sent and to line here, please.

19 A. E-mail from Gary Hirst to Lyn McFadden

20 (lmcfadden@vensurefcu.org), Sherri Farrell

21 (sfarrell@vensurefcu.org), sent Friday, April 30, 2010, subject  
22 wire to Soc-Gen.

23 Q. If you could just read the message in this e-mail, please.

24 A. "Please send the following wire from the Pennine Investors,  
25 Ltd. (1064) account and confirm when sent. Thanks, Gary."

1 Q. And the amount please?

2 A. Amount, \$2,375,000.

3 Q. And the receiving bank just below the ABA number.

4 A. Societe Generale, New York.

5 Q. Thank you.

6 Now turning to the Defendant's Exhibit 901C.

7 If you could read the from, sent and to line, please.

8 A. E-mail from Terence Thorpe (terence.thorpe@socgen.com), to  
9 Old Gary, sent Thursday, June 3, 2010, subject: Request of  
10 Redemption in Global Asset Fund Ltd.

11 Q. If you could just read the entire e-mail, please.

12 A. "Dear Gary, please find enclosed our request of redemption  
13 which represents our total holdings in the above-mentioned  
14 fund. Best regards, Terence."

15 Q. Thank you.

16 Turning now to the first page of the attachment, if  
17 you could just read below the line where it says "subject."

18 A. "Subject: Global Asset Fund Ltd.

19 "We are confirming the following redemption:

20 "939,66534 shares.

21 "For next trade date May 31, 2010."

22 Q. Actually, go ahead, you can read the next line.

23 A. "Please pay proceeds of the redemption to the following  
24 instructions:

25 "Societe Generale New York."

1 Q. That's fine. We will skip the banking details.

2 Now turning to Defense Trial Exhibit 1142.

3 The bottom e-mail, I think, is the same message in the  
4 e-mail that we just read in 901C.

5 Starting above that one, if you could read the from,  
6 date and to line there, please.

7 A. E-mail from Gary Hirst (gary@hirstlaw.com), to  
8 jason@holmbycompanies.com, date Thursday, 3rd June 2010,  
9 Subject: Forward request of redemption in Global Asset Fund  
10 Ltd.

11 Q. Then if you could read the one line in the message, please.

12 A. "Weston redemption request for May 31."

13 (Continued on next page)

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1 BY MS. HARRIS:

2 Q. Then could you read the top of the email, please, of  
3 Defense Trial Exhibit 1142, the FROM, SENT, and TO line.

4 A. Email from Jason@holmbycompanies.com, to Old Gary, sent  
5 Thursday, June 3rd, 2010. Subject, "Re: request of redemption  
6 in Global Asset Fund Ltd".

7 Q. Could you please read the one line in that message?

8 A. "Master Trust I suppose in a few weeks!"

9 Q. Thank you. If you could now turn to Defense Trial  
10 Exhibit 901D. Skipping some of the computer code, if you could  
11 read the FROM, SENT and TO line in that email, please?

12 A. Email from Gary Hirst, to Lynn McFadden,  
13 lmcfadden@vensurefcu.org, Sherri Farrell,  
14 sfarrell@vensurefcu.org. Sent Tuesday, June 22nd, 2010.  
15 Subject, "Wire to Soc-Gen".

16 Q. If you could just read the body of the message of the  
17 email, please.

18 A. "Please send the following wire from the Pennine Investors  
19 Ltd account number 1064 and confirm when sent. Thanks! Gary."

20 Q. And the amount, please?

21 A. \$2,620,000.

22 Q. And the name of the receiving bank under the ABA code?

23 A. Societe General, New York.

24 Q. And the originator to beneficiary information?

25 A. Global Asset Fund. Ltd.



1 Q. Thank you.

2 One last email, Ms. Walsh. Thank you. Defense Trial  
3 Exhibit 901E. If you could read the FROM, SENT, and TO line in  
4 that email, please.

5 A. Email from Gary Hirst to Terence Thorpe, sent Tuesday,  
6 June 22nd, 2010. Subject, "Re: request of redemption in Global  
7 Asset Fund. Ltd".

8 Q. Then, if you could read the body of the email, please, at  
9 the top.

10 A. "Dear Terence. Global Asset Fund has this afternoon wired  
11 \$2,620,000 to your account. A redemption would have been for  
12 September 30, so the fund has instead refunded your  
13 subscription. This represents full and final payment.  
14 Regards, Gary."

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you, your Honor. Nothing further.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Tremonte, what remains?

17 MR. TREMONTE: One additional witness. The direct  
18 will be approximately five minutes or less.

19 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, if you'd like, we  
20 can do that now, that will be the last witness in the case, or  
21 if you'd prefer, we could do it on Monday morning. Anybody  
22 object to doing it now?

23 JURORS: No objections.

24 THE COURT: All right. Wow. You can take my job.

25 Thank you. I'll give an advanced preview.

1 On Monday morning, what will happen is, I anticipate  
2 we will have closing arguments from each side. The lawyers  
3 will have an opportunity to sum up and tell you what they  
4 believe the evidence has shown. The summations themselves are  
5 not evidence.

6 On Monday, your lunch will be provided for you.  
7 You'll get menus from Flo on Monday morning to select what you  
8 like.

9 After the conclusion of the closing arguments, I will  
10 deliver my instructions to you on the law, and then you will  
11 have the case to deliberate on. I should tell you that you  
12 need to keep an open mind until you hear it all. Okay?

13 The weekend is coming up, we're not going to sit  
14 tomorrow, so it's important that you follow that instruction to  
15 not discuss the case among yourselves or with anyone, and to  
16 not do any research on your own. That would be unfair to one  
17 side or the other or both sides. You wouldn't want that if it  
18 were your family, so please, don't do that. All right?

19 Mr. Tremonte.

20 MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, the defense calls Tracey  
21 Hirst.

22 TRACEY HIRST,

23 called as a witness by the Defendant,

24 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

25 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Please state your name and spell it

1 for the record, please.

2 THE WITNESS: Tracey Hirst. T-r-a-c-e-y, H-i-r-s-t.

3 THE COURT: All right. Sit back in the chair and  
4 relax.

5 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

6 THE COURT: As long as the microphone is close enough.  
7 That's the only thing I ask.

8 Go ahead.

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. TREMONTE:

11 Q. Tracey, I have to ask this question for the record. Do you  
12 know Gary Hirst?

13 A. Yes. He's my dad.

14 Q. Is your father in the courtroom today?

15 A. I'm kind of short. Yes.

16 Q. Can you just point him out, please?

17 A. He's in the back row.

18 THE COURT: Identification noted. Go ahead.

19 MR. TREMONTE: Thank you, your Honor.

20 Q. How old are you, Ms. Hirst?

21 A. I'm 28.

22 Q. Where do you live?

23 A. I live in Orlando Florida.

24 Q. How long have you lived there?

25 A. Most of my life.

1 Q. Do you live alone?

2 A. No, my dad lives with me.

3 Q. Just you and your dad?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. For how long have you lived there with your dad?

6 A. In Orlando, or just with my dad?

7 Q. Your current home.

8 A. Just about a year.

9 Q. Tell us briefly about your education, please.

10 A. I graduated from Rollins College, which is in Orlando. I  
11 have a degree in theater, design tech, and history.

12 Q. What did you do after college?

13 A. I got my real estate license.

14 Q. What do you do for a living now?

15 A. I'm a real estate agent.

16 Q. Do you do any other work?

17 A. I do some administrative work for Insurance Company of the  
18 Americas.

19 Q. Your dad is associated with the Insurance Company of the  
20 Americas?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Do you support yourself?

23 THE COURT: You have answer in words.

24 THE WITNESS: Yes. Sorry. I guess it wasn't loud  
25 enough.

1 THE COURT: Thanks.

2 Q. Do you support yourself?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Do you receive financial support from your father?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Did he pay for your college education?

7 A. Partially. I got a partial scholarship.

8 Q. Has your father made any especially large purchases for you  
9 since college?

10 A. My car. Well, that was before college, sorry.

11 Q. Okay. Anything else?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Do you own your home?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Does your father help you pay for it?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Does your father provide you with any additional income  
18 beyond what you make to support yourself?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Directing your attention to May of 2010, did you go on a  
21 vacation at that time?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Where did you go?

24 A. Went to Southern California.

25 Q. And were you on vacation alone or with others?

1 A. My whole family was with me.

2 Q. When you say "your family", could you just list who went on  
3 the vacation?

4 A. Yes. My mother, my father, and my brother was in school in  
5 San Diego at the time so we collected him there.

6 Q. I'm going to ask you to speak up just a little bit. My  
7 colleague reminds me that it's hard to hear you, so if you can  
8 speak up.

9 A. Sorry.

10 Q. Please tell us the dates of the vacation.

11 A. We left Orlando on the 20th of May, and we returned to  
12 Orlando on June 4th.

13 Q. When you say "we left Orlando", did you travel together  
14 with others?

15 A. My parents came with me and returned with me.

16 Q. You flew out of Orlando together on a plane?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Where did you fly to?

19 A. To San Diego.

20 Q. And that was on the 20th of May?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Did you fly back from San Diego?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did you fly with your parents?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. What date did you fly back?

2 A. On June 4th.

3 Q. Where did you go during your vacation?

4 A. We went up and down the coast of Southern California  
5 between San Diego and Los Angeles, and then back down to  
6 San Diego.

7 Q. Okay. Did you observe your father working during the  
8 vacation?

9 A. No.

10 Q. During your family's vacation in late May and early June of  
11 2010, did you stay at a resort called Pelican Hill?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Where is Pelican Hill?

14 A. It's somewhere in Orange County. I think it's near Newport  
15 Beach.

16 Q. How long did you stay there?

17 A. One night.

18 Q. One night. Okay. Do you remember which night that was?

19 A. May 23rd. I think it was -- whatever day the finale of  
20 Lost aired.

21 Q. The finale of what?

22 A. Of Lost. The TV show Lost.

23 Q. Did you watch the finale of Lost that day?

24 A. Yes. That's why I remember.

25 Q. Are you familiar with an individual named Jason Galanis?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Did Jason Galanis visit your father while you were staying  
3 at the Pelican Hill?

4 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection to leading, your Honor.

5 THE COURT: I'm going to allow it. Go ahead.

6 THE WITNESS: Sorry. Can you repeat the question?

7 Q. I can. Did Jason Galanis visit your father when you were  
8 staying at Pelican Hill?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. What happened?

11 A. My dad went to the main -- the clubhouse -- the restaurant  
12 to meet with him briefly.

13 Q. Were you present for that meeting?

14 A. No.

15 Q. But you were told that -- your dad told you he was meeting  
16 with Jason?

17 A. Yeah. I think he asked me to make a --

18 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, your Honor, to hearsay.

19 MR. TREMONTE: It's not for the truth, it's what she  
20 heard.

21 THE COURT: It's for the fact it was said. Go ahead.

22 Next question.

23 Q. What were you doing when your father was meeting with Jason  
24 Galanis?

25 A. My mom and my brother and I were at the gym.



1 Q. How long were you at the gym?

2 A. Half an hour to an hour.

3 Q. By the time you got out of the gym, was your dad done?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Did you discuss the meeting afterwards with your father?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Did you have dinner plans for that night?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did you make a reservation someplace?

10 A. Yes, at the Five Crowns.

11 Q. All right. Did Mr. Galanis join your father -- your family  
12 for dinner?

13 A. No. My dad had asked me to --

14 THE COURT: No, no, no. You answered the question.  
15 Next question.

16 MR. TREMONTE: Okay.

17 Q. As far as you know, Mr. Galanis left the Pelican Hill after  
18 he met with your dad?

19 A. Yes.

20 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Yes. That's sustained and stricken. Next  
22 question.

23 Q. Directing your attention to the following year, 2011.

24 A. Mm-hmm.

25 Q. Specifically to January, 2011.

1 A. Mm-hmm.

2 Q. Did there come a time in January when your father stopped  
3 working, to your knowledge?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And that was in January?

6 A. Yes, the end of January.

7 MR. TREMONTE: No further questions, your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Any cross?

9 MS. MERMELSTEIN: May I have one moment, your Honor?

10 THE COURT: Yes.

11 (Pause)

12 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Your Honor, may we approach for one  
13 moment, please?

14 THE COURT: Sure.

15 (Continued on next page)

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1 (At sidebar)

2 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Your Honor, I objected to the  
3 question that was asked about what her father told her about  
4 where he was going, and the objection was overruled on the  
5 basis that it was not being offered for its truth but being  
6 offered presumably for what seemed at the time like it was  
7 going to be for some other purpose like, "and as a result of  
8 what I was told, I acted in some fashion". There was no real  
9 followup that made that statement offered for any permissible  
10 purpose other than an attempt to prove that Jason Galanis met  
11 with Gary Hirst that day. That her father told her that does  
12 not make it admissible, and we move to strike that testimony.

13 THE COURT: Well, it seems to me you can cross examine  
14 and say, "Did you see Jason Galanis?"

15 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Your Honor, the problem --

16 THE COURT: Did she testify she saw Jason Galanis?

17 MR. TREMONTE: No, she didn't.

18 THE COURT: You can bring that up.

19 MS. MERMELSTEIN: The point, your Honor, is that she  
20 has now testified that her father told her something. I expect  
21 the defense is going to argue vigorously that that meeting  
22 between Jason Galanis and Gary Hirst took place. Her testimony  
23 is not a proper basis from which to make that argument, so  
24 asking if she's certain, essentially --

25 THE COURT: So you don't want to cross examine her,

1 you want me to strike it and you don't want cross examine, is  
2 that what you're saying?

3 MS. MERMELSTEIN: I may have other questions, but I'd  
4 like to strike that testimony.

5 MR. TREMONTE: She testified also that she made a  
6 reservation in the anticipation that he would come. It's a  
7 statement of future intention. This is an exception to the  
8 hearsay rule. It's admissible.

9 THE COURT: She made a reservation for what?

10 MS. MERMELSTEIN: But that testimony was not -- that  
11 was struck.

12 MR. TREMONTE: For dinner. Oh, that's what was  
13 struck?

14 THE COURT: Yes, I struck that.

15 MR. TREMONTE: What she said about her conversation  
16 with her father is exactly what your Honor ruled, it's what she  
17 heard.

18 THE COURT: Well, because I thought that it was going  
19 to be followed up by this caused her to do something or caused  
20 somebody to do something. It didn't.

21 MR. TREMONTE: But that's what I tried to elicit with  
22 the dinner reservation. I can bring it out --

23 THE COURT: But the objection was sustained on that.

24 MS. HARRIS: Sorry. Just to jump in, your Honor,  
25 because I think watching it from the outside may help. The

reason that dinner reservation is relevant, and I think now, given the government's objection, it all ties up, which is that the testimony would have been that she was asked to make a dinner reservation because Jason Galanis was going to be joining her. So that's what she did, she added a person to the dinner reservation as a result of that request. And then, though, he did not end up joining, but her father did leave them to go meet with someone, so that is all admissible.

THE COURT: Then the net of this is you're trying to prove that the meeting happened based on the statements of the father.

MS. HARRIS: And her action of making an additional dinner reservation, your Honor, which is conduct. And, as my colleague points out, who's done diligent research on the various hearsay exceptions, there is a hearsay exception for statement --

MR. BIALE: Statement of future intent, if it's carried out.

MR. TREMONTE: And she did make the dinner reservation.

MS. MERMELSTEIN: I don't think that her making the dinner reservation is relevant in any fashion. Did I interrupt you?

MR. BIALE: No. Sorry. The exception is, a statement of future intention is admissible as a hearsay exception if the

1 future intention is carried out. I think in this case the  
2 statement her --

3 MR. TREMONTE: Of the father.

4 MR. BIALE: -- him telling her I'm going to go meet  
5 with Jason Galanis is admissible if he then carries out that --

6 MS. HECTOR: There's no proof he carried it out.

7 MS. MERMELSTEIN: There's no proof he did carry it  
8 out.

9 MR. BIALE: That is -- I think that's why the dinner  
10 reservation comes in, because that corroborates that he did  
11 carry out the meeting with Jason Galanis.

12 THE COURT: How is that corroboration?

13 MR. BIALE: I suppose if he -- that was her  
14 understanding. I mean, I think that --

15 THE COURT: Her understanding what?

16 MR. BIALE: Of who he was meeting with.

17 THE COURT: Right.

18 MS. HARRIS: Because she had to make a dinner  
19 reservation to add one more party, because she was told and  
20 then he went down to meet with someone.

21 THE COURT: Well, what's corroborating what? That's  
22 what I don't understand. I don't know what's corroborating  
23 what.

24 MR. BIALE: So I think -- my understanding of how the  
25 exception works is, a statement of future intent is like a

1 present sense of impression. It's a statement of what's on the  
2 mind of the person. And if the person then takes certain  
3 actions that corroborate -- that show that that person carried  
4 out that action, then it can be admissible. I understand that  
5 the fact that she made the dinner reservation is not a  
6 corroboration of his intention, so, I mean, I think that's the  
7 tension that we're having.

8 THE COURT: You can ask the question and you can cross  
9 examine.

10 MR. TREMONTE: Your Honor, which question?

11 THE COURT: The question I struck.

12 (Continued on next page)  
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1 (In open court)

2 BY MR. TREMONTE:

3 Q. That evening, the day that you were at the Pelican Hill,  
4 did you make a dinner reservation?

5 THE COURT: No leading. No leading, sir.

6 MR. TREMONTE: I will not lead, your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Sustained.

8 Q. Ms. Hirst, what plans, if any, did you make for that day?

9 A. Dinner reservations.

10 Q. Okay. Did you have an understanding that someone would be  
11 joining you for dinner?

12 A. Yes. I was asked to add a member to our party.

13 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, your Honor.

14 THE COURT: The question was asked, "Did you have an  
15 understanding that another person was going to be joining you  
16 for dinner?"

17 THE WITNESS: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Thank you.

19 Q. What was that understanding?

20 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection, hearsay.

21 THE COURT: No, I think that is -- that's  
22 objectionable.

23 BY MR. TREMONTE:

24 Q. Did you make a dinner reservation?

25 A. Yes.



1 Q. For how many people?

2 A. Five.

3 Q. Okay. And who did you anticipate would be joining you?

4 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Objection.

5 THE COURT: Sustained.

6 MR. TREMONTE: May I have a moment, your Honor?

7 (Pause)

8 Q. For how many people did you make the dinner reservation?

9 A. Five.

10 Q. And how many people in your family?

11 A. Four.

12 MR. TREMONTE: No further questions, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: You may cross examine.

14 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Thank you, your Honor.

15 CROSS EXAMINATION

16 BY MS. MERMELSTEIN:

17 Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Hirst.

18 A. Good afternoon.

19 Q. Just to be clear, on that day of vacation with your family,  
20 when you and your mother and your brother went to the gym, you  
21 didn't go with your father to wherever he went, right?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Now, let me back up for just a moment. You're close to  
24 your father, right?

25 A. I am.

1 Q. And he's a very well-educated man, right?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. He has a college degree, right?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. He majored in computer science, right?

6 A. Yes.

7 MR. TREMONTE: Objection, your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Overruled.

9 Q. And he has a law degree?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And a medical degree?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And he's a sophisticated business person, right?

14 A. I think so.

15 Q. Now, your dad was involved in the course of his career in a  
16 number of different business endeavors, right?

17 MR. TREMONTE: Objection, your Honor, beyond the  
18 scope.

19 THE COURT: Sustained.

20 Q. You have met Jason Galanis, right?

21 A. I have.

22 Q. And Jason Galanis is very close to your dad, right?

23 A. I don't know.

24 MR. TREMONTE: Objection.

25 THE COURT: Overruled.

1 Q. Jason Galanis considered your dad like a father, right?

2 A. I don't know.

3 Q. You love your dad, right?

4 A. I do.

5 Q. And you don't want him to go to jail, right?

6 A. Yes.

7 MS. MERMELSTEIN: Nothing further, your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Any redirect?

9 MR. TREMONTE: Two questions, your Honor.

10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. TREMONTE:

12 Q. You just testified that you met Mr. Galanis personally?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. Did you meet him personally during that vacation?

15 A. Yes, in Los Angeles.

16 Q. In Los Angeles? Was that before or after you and your  
17 family were at the Pelican Hill?

18 A. After.

19 MR. TREMONTE: No further questions.

20 THE COURT: You may step down. Thank you very much.

21 THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Tremonte, any further witnesses or  
23 evidence?

24 MR. TREMONTE: No, your Honor. Defense rests.

25 THE COURT: Any rebuttal case from the government?

1 MS. HECTOR: Your Honor, we may have a brief rebuttal  
2 case, but we need to confer.

3 THE COURT: Well, confer.

4 As I said, ladies and gentlemen, after my final  
5 instructions, then you will have the case and you'll then be  
6 able to discuss the case among yourselves.

7 MS. HECTOR: Your Honor, given some issues --

8 THE COURT: No, no. Yes or no.

9 MS. HECTOR: No, your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Thank you.

11 That completes the evidentiary presentation in the  
12 case. I will see you all -- if you can get here a little bit  
13 early so we have a good, fresh start, and we'll get going on  
14 Monday morning. Have a very pleasant weekend. See you then.

15 (Continued on next page)

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1 (Jury not present)

2 THE COURT: I'll see everybody tomorrow afternoon at  
3 3:30 to discuss anything final about the jury instructions. I  
4 don't anticipate it's going to be very long. It may be five or  
5 ten minutes, but we'll get that done.

6 The government's preparing a redacted version of the  
7 indictment?

8 MR. BLAIS: Yes. In fact, we've provided that  
9 redacted version, as well as a proposed verdict form, to  
10 defense counsel, and we're waiting for any comments.

11 THE COURT: That's excellent.

12 Anything else outstanding? Okay. See you tomorrow at  
13 3:30. Thank you.

14 I will require a copy of that binder. If the court  
15 reporter needs this one then I will need -- you may need this  
16 on the email reread, so I will need one. Thank you.

17 (Adjourned to September 23rd, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.)  
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# GOVERNMENT EXHIBITS

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1001L, and 1126 to 1128, 1130

to 1131, and 1134

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